

## Indian Hill Historical Society

# Trustee Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 5:00 – Little Red Schoolhouse & Virtual (v) via Zoom

Attendees: John Armstrong, Brenda Benzar (v), Dani Frappier, George Glover, Barb Hauck, Susan Holzapfel, Chip Hunter, Ed Jacobs, Kent Little, Doug Manzler (v), Pam Middendorff, Michael Muth (v), Janet Reynolds, Lois Rust, Rita Stolper (v), and Rosemary Welsh.

Staff members present were Lawre Bonekemper and Lindsay McLean.

A photograph of the Board of Trustees was taken prior to the meeting.

Rosemary Welsh called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m.

**President's Remarks:** Ray Schilderink has resigned from the Board of Trustees. Pam Middendorff will be taking his place on the Executive Committee.

Rosemary shared some thank you notes from Mary & Bill Bramlage and Ginny White re: the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party.

### I. Minutes: September 12, 2023: Rosemary Welsh

The minutes, as emailed, were approved, and seconded with a correction to the President's Remarks: a copy of the policy decision regarding the founding of the Indian Hill Historical Museum Association should be attached with the minutes and so noted in the minutes.

### II. Treasurer's Report, September 2023: Chip Hunter

The Finance Committee met just prior to today's Board meeting. Overall, the Historical Society's finances are in good shape. Each month \$9,000 is withdrawn from the endowment account to fund general operations and supplement the buildings and grounds capital savings account. Chip was pleased that the loss for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of about \$6,000 was less than expected (\$10,000). Additionally, the Authors Series has met its fundraising goals. As of 10/11/2023, the endowment account balance was \$3,2168,68.

### III. Membership Report, September 2023: Kent Little

Kent was pleased to report that total membership is 349 which is just shy of 5-year goal of 350 established in November 2022 with the strategic plan. The energy and synergy are great in the community with respect to the Society. Dani Frappier suggested that non-member prices for events be increased to encourage more people to join the Society. As agreed at the September Board meeting, each month a Trustee will be assigned to write thank-you notes to new / upgraded members. Lawre will provide the information to the Trustee.

### IV. Buildings and Grounds

#### a. Current maintenance projects: Ed Jacobs

Ed reviewed the current maintenance issues at the Schoolhouse:

- i. Front steps / rises are too high. Ed has met with a stone mason who will do the work in several months. Lawre asked that this work be scheduled in coordination with the rental calendar.
    - ii. Cedar shakes of the roof are old and brittle. The roof needs to be replaced before it starts leaking. Ed will investigate a standing seam roof as an option.
    - iii. There is a leak in one of the box gutters which needs to be repaired.
    - iv. The iron railing in cement along the handicap ramp is problematic and needs attention.
  - b. **Buckingham Lodge Renovations:** Chip Hunter  
The plans for reinforcing the basement have been shared with the Village. A building permit from the county will be the next step. The interior design plans have been finalized and will be shared with a few contractors to get bids. Chip is hopeful that the work will start in Spring 2024.
- V. Staff Reports:** Lawre Bonekemper and Lindsay McLean  
Written reports were submitted by the Administrator and Historian. Lindsay shared that she was awarded an Individual award for her contributions to history at the annual meeting of the Ohio Local History Alliance.
- VI. Advisory Board Update:** Kent Little  
Kent reported that Ashley Kothegeal and he will be meeting to assess the composition and involvement of the Advisory Board. Rosemary Welsh commented that the original vision for the Advisory Board was that its members would eventually move on to the Board of Trustees. It was also noted that the Board of Trustees needs younger members to help with the physical nature of the events.
- VII. Old Business:**
- a. **September 15<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party:** Susan Holzapfel / Barb Hauck  
Susan stated that everyone had a great time, the food was delicious, and band, The Mercy Men, got lots of people dancing and having fun. The party was a great success. As Chip previously noted, the loss on the event was less than forecasted.
  - b. **October 12, Authors Series with Allen Guelzo:** John Armstrong  
John reported that Dr. Guelzo's fees have been covered by the sponsors' donations. John reviewed the timetable and volunteers for the 2 events. There will be reserved seating at Country Day School for sponsors and for people who need help with seating. There will be a membership table and Bartlett Wealth management sponsor table in the main area before entering Keeler Theater.
- VIII. November 19<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Litte Red Schoolhouse:** Barb Hauck  
Barb related that this program will be a family-friendly event with a tent in the front yard for food and drink as the Schoolhouse will be set up with various displays of the Schoolhouse through the years and a looping video.

**IX. New Business:**

- a. **November 28<sup>th</sup>, Trim-a-Tree:** Judith Affatato / Brenda Benzar  
Judith and Brenda will meet at the end of October, so there is no update at this time.
  
- b. **December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Village Christmas Party:** Janet Reynolds  
Plans are progressing for this fun day. Mike Dressell from the IH Rangers will be Santa again, and the performers/helpers (balloon artist, magician, and face painter) have been lined up, too. Live music for the event is being considered. Dani Frappier suggested that a membership table be set up for the party.

**X. Nominating Committee:** Susan Holzapfel

There are three seats of the Board of Trustees which need to be filled (Andy MacKay, Greg Miller, and Ray Schilderink). All these seats were held by men. The committee will meet later this month to review possible candidates. There was a brief discussion about adding Trustees from the current Advisory Board. Additionally, it was suggested that candidates' experience, e.g., construction, marketing, etc. be considered as an asset for a Board position.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm

Respectfully submitted for Rosemary Ballard,  
By Lawre Bonekemper and Lindsay McLean

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 5:00 p.m., Little Red Schoolhouse**