

Indian Hill Historical Society
Trustee Meeting

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 5:00 – Little Red Schoolhouse

Attendees: John Armstrong, Rosemary Ballard, Brenda Benzar, Dani Frappier, George Glover, Barb Hauck, Ed Jacobs, Allison Kahn, Kent Little, Doug Manzler, Don McGraw, Pam Middendorff, Michael Muth, Beth Onthank, Dan Peters, Janet Reynolds, Lois Rust, Scott Sayre, Rosemary Welsh, and Ginny White

Office members present were Lawre Bonekemper, Lindsay McLean, and Trish Krehbiel

Rosemary Welsh called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

President’s Opening Remarks: Rosemary Welsh

- Two of the new Trustees were in attendance and were introduced to the Board: Beth Onthank & Allison Kahn.
- Rosemary mentioned that sign-up sheets for next season’s programs and committees were being passed around. Trustees are expected to sign up for 3 programs and 3 committees.
- A picture of the Board will be taken prior to the next Board meeting. Rosemary asked the Trustees to arrive at 4:45 p.m. for the picture.
- Rosemary Ballard stated that the programs have been very well attended and are important for growing membership. There are many opportunities for Trustees to help. Plans for next season are in progress, and topics may include Greenacres and the circus.

I. Minutes: April 19, 2024: Rosemary Ballard

A change to minutes regarding the Polly Campbell recap was suggested: add the word “reported” after George Glover. With that change, the minutes, as emailed, were approved.

II. Treasurer Report, April 2024: Rosemary Welsh

The current balance of the Schwab account is \$3,691,500.

III. Membership Report: April 2024: Kent Little

Membership is down due to the deletions of the members who were in arrears. Kent encouraged Trustees to review this list and reach out to encourage them to rejoin.

IV. Buildings and Grounds: Ed Jacobs

- a. **Buckingham Lodge Renovation Contract:** The Buildings & Grounds Committee met with the space planner, Ann Linke, and the contractor from Oakley Construction to review the bid and the scope and timing of the work. December is looking to be the best start time for the project. Ann Linke will manage the project for an additional fee. An inventory of the items in the building was provided to the committee for reviewing and determining what will be kept or donated.

- b. **Roofing materials:** Synthetic shakes roof tiles and shutters are being considered for the Schoolhouse. Roofing contractor D.M. Norris recommended DaVinci Shakes which may be seen at the Elliot House on lower Given Rd. and at the Cincinnati Zoo's Elephant House. The estimate for the roof is \$65,770 and the shutters is \$54,780.
- c. **Front steps:** The height of the steps' risers needs to be lowered. The contractor thinks the existing materials may be used to accomplish this change.

V. Advisory Board Update: Kent Little

Kent has not met with Ashley Kothehal to discuss the composition of the Advisory Board. He asked the Trustees for names of people who might be good candidates for adding to the Advisory Board. Kent is hoping that Ashley will be the liaison between the Trustees and the Advisory Board.

VI. Office Reports: Lawre Bonekemper, Lindsay McLean, and Trish Krehbiel

Written reports were submitted by the Administrator and Historian.

Trish Krehbiel led a discussion about the digitized archives and access to them. She noted that IHHS is a historical society, and not a library. There will be limitations on what is available on the website due to privacy and copyright issues. A policy for dissemination of materials has been developed by the office based on best practices by other similar organizations but needs to have an attorney's review. This would protect Board members from liability issues which may arise by providing this dissemination / access.

VII. Old Business:

a. Program: April 21st, Covalt's Station with Steven Early and Annual Meeting of IHHS: Rosemary Welsh

This was another top-notch, sold-out event. Steve Early was a terrific presenter, and the audience was very engaged. However, the event barely broke even. Raising prices for tickets and audits is necessary to cover the expenses.

b. Patron Party: May 19th, Sue Lawrence's home, 4710 Hilltop Lane: Pam Middendorff

Pam reported that there were lots of moving parts with the off-site event. Currently, there are 107 RSVPs. The Lawrences and Wrassmans will be thanked for their donation of land which allowed for the land swap and the Schoolhouse's septic system to be on what was Green Areas land behind the Schoolhouse. Both families will be extended complimentary memberships.

c. Authors Series: John Armstrong

Don McGraw and Scott Sayre have volunteered to help with this event. John has met with Cincinnati Country Day and Indian Hill High School representatives to map out the presentations. For this event, the fundraising goal is \$10,000.

d. Student Award: John Armstrong.

Rosemary Welsh noted there was discussion during the last Board meeting about increasing the student award amount. A motion was made to increase the Student Award from \$500 to \$1,000. The change was approved.

VIII. Preservation Committee: Lockwood Cabin: Brenda Benzar

There was no update as Barns and Cabin Friends had not provided a quote or written feedback about moving the cabin at 7705 Indian Hill Rd.

IX. New Business:

a. Board Orientation: Rosemary Welsh

There will be an orientation meeting for the new Board members prior to the next Board meeting. The orientation will begin at 4pm on June 11th.

b. Trustee Board Dinner, Tuesday, June 11th: Dani Frappier

The setup for the dinner will be on Monday, June 10th.

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 5:00 p.m., Little Red Schoolhouse