

ORLEANS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL MEETING
ZOOM WEBINAR
August 9, 2020

The meeting took place through electronic connections of internet and phone at the end of this year's Old Stone House Week of virtual activities that began on August 5th. The changes in activities and meetings were necessary this year due to the ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic and the need to maintain social distancing. This electronic assembly of membership included:

- Trustees - Katherine French, Jane Greenwood, Lucinda Herrick, Carmen Jackson, Kate Johnson, Irene McDermut, Mike Murphy, Dan Pellerin, Nan Richardson, David Snedeker, and Barbara Thompson.
- Potential Trustees - Dawn Andrews, Frank Carbonneau, Ann Lawless, and Daniel Ian Smith.
- Museum staff - Molly Veysey, Executive Director; Bob Hunt, Operations Director; Drew Bush, Assistant Director of Development, Marketing and Communications; Mahala Nyberg, Associate Director of Collections and Programs; and Leila Nordmann, Associate Director of Museum Education.
- Members and friends who numbered 17 for a total of 39 in attendance.

Leila Nordmann opened the meeting informally at 1 PM and gave an introduction to the Zoom format. Drew Bush continued the meeting orientation with instructions about today's electronic voting. Then, with a smile on his face, Mike Murphy called for a practice vote on the subject of happiness.

President Murphy called the meeting officially to order at 1:10 PM. He continued with a welcome to the meeting and a few short, encouraging remarks. Molly made an introduction of all the current staff members. She continued by expressing her appreciation especially for Jane Greenwood, Katherine French, Carmen Jackson, the executive committee, the volunteers, and the staff.

Molly presented an overview of 2020 at the OSH along with slides matched to the appropriate projects. A description of these initiatives can be found in the **Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village 2020 Annual Report:**

- Alexander Twilight Initiative - This year marks his 225th birthday on September 20th.
- Historic Recreation Trail Project - just finished.
- CCC Camp 55 - We will be working in tandem with the State of VT's Parks & Recreation Division.
- Early Childhood Education - now under the guidance of Leila.
- The Giving Garden - produce given to local food pantries and will also be distributed across the county with the help of Green Mountain Farm to School.

There are numerous other smaller initiatives in progress at the Museum. A motion was made (David/Carmen) to accept the Director's Report as presented with 25 in favor, 3 opposed, and 0 abstaining. Mike declared the motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented in the **Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village 2020 Annual Report**. A motion was made (Barbara/Allen Yale) to accept this report as presented. There were no questions or discussion. The motion passed with 26 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstaining.

The secretary's report for the August 11, 2019 Annual Meeting in the Grammar School was presented in the **Old Stone House Museum & Historic Village 2020 Annual Report**. Again there were no questions or

discussion. A motion was made (Carmen/Lucinda) to accept this report as presented. The motion passed with 24 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstaining.

Barbara presented a request for a board vote on acceptance of the regular minutes from the June 17, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting. These minutes were presented at the July 15, 2020 regular Board of Trustees meeting, however, an official vote to accept these minutes was overlooked at the July meeting. There were no corrections presented. A motion was made (Carmen/David) to accept these minutes as presented at the July 15, 2020 meeting. The motion passed with 7 board members from that July meeting voting in the affirmative.

Molly announced the creation of a Commemorative Fund in honor of Mike Murphy whose term on the board of trustees ends today. He has had a greater than thirty year history of service to the Museum in various capacities...secretary, vice president, president, secretary, and again the president. This new fund will support education and collections which have been Mike's top areas of interest, but his volunteer work was never confined to those two categories alone. Mike made some humble comments about his love for the Museum and its work in our community. Make a donation to this new fund in honor of Mike if you are able. Thanks was expressed also for the other outgoing board members Noble Francoeur, Irene McDermut, and Barbara Thompson.

Carmen reported for the Nominating Committee proposing the following trustee names and terms:

- Dawn Andrews, Frank Carbonneau, Robin LaPlante, Daniel Ian Smith, and David Snedeker for first 3 year terms (2020-2023)
- Ann Lawless for a vacant 3 year term (2018-2021) with 1 year left (2020-2021)
- Dan Pellerin to finish a 3 year term (2019-2022) with 2 years left (2020-2022)

There were no further nominations. A motion was made (Katherine/Allen and Lucinda) to have the secretary cast one ballot for the above list of trustees for the terms described above. The motion passed with 24 in favor, 1 opposed, and 2 abstaining. There will be an orientation for new trustees. Molly encouraged trustees and members to utilize the new dashboard that will populate with information over time.

For our slate of officers, Mike proposed Carmen Jackson as our President. Carmen then offered the rest of the slate as Katherine French – Vice President, David Snedeker – Treasurer, and Robin LaPlante - Secretary. There were no further nominations. A motion was made (Mike/Barbara) to have the secretary cast one ballot for the slate of officers. The motion passed with 23 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstaining.

Board members and volunteers can best help the Museum now by reaching out to build up membership and new donors. In the near future, there will be a need to acquire signatures for town appropriations. We may need to do this electronically this year. We have some published policies in place addressing the pandemic, and Molly has been in touch with our insurance company regarding our liability if someone gets sick with COVID 19 after attending an event at the Museum. There are no clear answers to the liability question as it has not yet been tested.

We received some closing remarks of optimism and encouragement from incoming President Carmen Jackson, who then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made (David/Lucinda) to adjourn at 2:04 PM. This motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Thompson, Secretary