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New Boston, Pa - August 2018

MAHANAY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES - JANUARY 28, 2002

The monthly meeting of the Historical Society was called to order by President Larry Levy and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. In attendance were: Lorrie Bennick, Larry Levy, Teresa McCord, Ed Strasavage, George Krall, Bill O'Brien Frank Selgrath, Rose Flamini, Susan Zimmerman, Michael Cheslock, Peg Grigalonis, Charlotte Maurey and Helen Hibner.

Secretary's Report - A letter was received from Mesa, Arizona (Iris Freetag) requesting information about the Mahanoy Indians. Larry agreed to contact her by email to try to answer her questions. A letter was received from M&T Bank noting that non-profit organization will be exempt from a service charge if the balance in the account is over \$500.

Treasurer's Report - Starting balance as of Dec 31, 2001 of \$2,960.18, deposits of \$47, and no expenses. Ending balance of \$3,007.18. Mr. Strasavage noted that the beginning balance of Jan 1, 2001 was \$2,374.20 and the ending balance for the year was \$3,007.18. Michael Cheslock will prepare the next report. A motion was made to accept the report by Mike Cheslock, seconded by Peg Grigalonis, all in favor.

Property & Artifacts - Rose Flamini reported that she received 2 boxes of items ~~for~~ ^{from} Larry to document.

Membership - Peg Grigalonis reported that as of today, 43 members paid their dues.

Restoration & Revitalization - A letter was sent to John Rich in regards to the P&R building.

Public Relations - "National History Month" will be celebrated at the Fairlane Village Mall on Saturday, Feb 9. The Schuylkill Coalition will have tables to display historic memorabilia. Michael Cheslock will arrange for a display and volunteers for staffing.

Visitors Center - still waiting for DCED to "unfreeze" committed funds of \$250,000.

Old Business - Frank Selgrath has requested a Committee Chair List.

By-Laws - The By-Law Committee held a meeting and updated the By-Laws. Copies were distributed to the membership. A vote will be held on the By-Law changes in March.

The Committees & Chairs are as follows: Membership - Michael Cheslock; Finance - Ed Strasavage; Property & Artifacts - Rose Flamini; Fund Raising - Larry Levy; Hospitality - Teresa McCord; Public Relations - Michael Cheslock; Restoration & Revitalization - Michael Cheslock; Visitor Center - Larry Levy; Christmas Tour - Lorrie Bennick; Community Day - Michael Cheslock; Halloween Decorating - Rose Flamini. The Executive Committee will meet 1/2 hour prior to the regularly scheduled meeting.

Good of the Society - Larry suggested that we obtain a Games of Small Chance License to enable to the Society to hold raffles. No decision was made until more information is received by the Membership.

A discussion was held to change the meeting date from Monday to Tuesday. It was discussed that unless there was "proof" that it would increase attendance; the meeting date would remain the last Monday of the month.

The Greater Shenandoah Area Historical Society forwarded a list of Guest Speakers. Ethnic Day will be held in the Borough on June 8.

Ed Strasavage suggested holding a book sale of used books as a fund raiser. An historical society was very successful on his recent visit to Lancaster County.

The membership voted to change the location of future meetings to the Good American Hose Co. 738 E Mahanoy, effective February 25, 2002, for ease of parking. Motion was made by Mike Cheslock, seconded by Frank Selgrath.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Cheslock, seconded by Peg Grigalonis.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lorrie Bennick, Secretary

MAHANAY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES - MARCH 25, 2002

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Levy who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were: Lorrie Bennick, Teresa McCord, Larry Levy, Michael Cheslock, Frank Selgrath, Bill O'Brien, Charlotte Maurey, Rose Flamini, Kathy Wufsus, Susan Zimmerman, Peg Grigalonis, Travis Kromer.

Michael Cheslock made a motion, seconded by Rose Flamini, to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Secretary's report - An email was received from Jack Kubert stating that he had mining gear to donate to the Society.

Treasurer's report - Beginning balance - \$3056.18, receipts of \$71, expenses of \$97 for an ending balance of \$3,030.18. A question was asked regarding the payment of Hall rental to the Good American. It was explained that this was for the April meeting, due to the extended time. The money will be returned to the Society if we clean up afterwards.

Membership - Peg Grigalonis received 2 more paid memberships. She will have new member forms available for the April meeting.

Property & Artifacts - Rose received a miners clothing/key holder from Frank Selgrath. He also donated 3 videos taken of the inside of the churches during the Christmas Tour.

Fund Raising - Application for Small games of chance license has been tabled for now. We must have an actual physical address to apply. The Social security numbers for the officers would have been required to do criminal background checks. Discussion was held on selling ornaments or note cards for a fund raising project. Peg Grigalonis will contact Jack Fowler for information on ornaments. Larry will contact Frackville Historical Society for info on their ornaments. Suzanne will research previously obtained information on the afghans. All info to go to Larry. Also researching the production of note cards featuring local pictures.

Public Relations - Michael sent invitations to 10 local historical societies inviting them to attend the April 29th program. It was also suggested that he send the invitation to local organizations. He also suggested composing a letter to send to the Borough Manager of Mahanoy City requesting inclusion into the plans for downtown revitalization. Teresa shared a flyer that Orwigsburg prepared about their historical Society. A meeting was set for Tuesday, April 2nd, 6:30PM, Good American Hose Co. to discuss and "Antique Road Show" type program.

Restoration & Revitalization - Michael sent another letter to Jack Rich on 3/18/02 regarding the P&R building. No response to date. Lorrie gave an update on the visitor's center. Approval was given to start work on the building again. Peg Grigalonis will ask the Library for the artifacts left from the old Post office.

Old Business - April meeting will feature the guest speaker. Rose will bring punch, Lorrie will bring a veggie tray, Teresa, Mike and Charlotte will bring baked goods. On Sunday, April 28, Mike is in charge of setting up the hall. Frank Selgrath will need 3 tables to display pictures. Peg will need a membership table.

By-Laws - A motion to change the bylaws, made by Michael Cheslock, seconded by Travis Kromer, to delete the maximum 2 term sentence for president failed by a 5-6 vote. The By-Laws were adopted as previously read. Vote - 7 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 sustain.

Good of the Society - Kathy W. suggested moving the appraisal fair to a different date. Teresa suggested contacting Sch. Council for the Arts for assistance for Community Day.

A motion to adjourn was made by Charlotte, seconded by Travis.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie Bennick, Secretary

MAHANAY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JUNE 24, 2002
Revised with corrections

The Mahanoy Area Historical Society was called to order by President Larry Levy, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance were: Lorrie Bennick, Frank Selgrath, Larry Levy, Teresa McCord Rose Flamini, Albert Silveri, Dolly Wagner, Charlotte Maurey, Sophie Kormack Klemic, George F. Krall, Peg Grigalonis, Sue Zimmerman, Michael Klinosky, Michael Cheslock.

Treasurer' Report - June beginning balance - \$3,090.18, \$152 deposit. Ending balance - \$3,242.18. Motion to accept by George Krall, all in favor.

Secretary's report - No correspondence received. No quorum was held at May meeting, therefore no minutes to be read.

Membership - Peg G. reported 5 new members joined at the April meeting and Community Day.

Property Artifacts - Rose F. - Peg G. received items that were donated by the Gray Nuns of Sacred Heart which were given to Rose for recording. Teresa McCord also recived a box of items to be recorded.

Fund Raising Committee - no report. George Krall asked if we were planning to do anything for the Fireman's Convention.

Public Relations - Michael Cheslock reported on successful Community Day plans. Lots of organizations and crafters registered to participate. Sponsors donated \$90, plus Mahanoy Elderly donated \$400. Rose Flamini thanked the Sch. Council for the Arts for providing the Cressona Band at a cost of \$480. Will Play from 12 - 1:30. Clowns to be present from 9-12. Stewart Richards "Mining in Schuylkill County" can't do book signing, would like to do later date. Lorrie will contact Steve Varonka to see if he is available. Book sale - a large amount of books received to date.

Restoration & Revitalization - want to form a committee to start documenting historical properties. Bill O'Brien may be interested in chairing this endeavor.

Visitor Center - Transportation Enhancement funds have been received (\$150,000) and final plans are underway for the museum portion. Lorrie will check with the architect on details.

Peg Grigalonis is going to apply to PHMC for a technical assistance grant.

Roster of Committees:

Executive Committee: All officers.

Membership/hospitality - Secretary & Peg Grigalonis (chair)

Finance - Treasurer & Lorrie Bennick (chair)

Fund Raising - President & _____

Property & Artifacts/Historical - Historian & Rose Flamini (Chair)

Public Relations /Historical Preservation - Michael Cheslock - chair

A committee sign up sheet was passed for people to sign up for committees.

New Business - The Mahanoy Alumni web site was changed to reunion.com. Frank Selgrath asked if we were going to do anything to combine/move our website. Michael will contact Dwayne Messerschmidt from Cybervania to discuss what is needed for us to transfer/link all sites to one.

We had three guests at our meeting.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned on a motion by Michael Cheslock, seconded by George Krall at 7:55.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie Bennick, Secretary

MAHANAY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JULY 29, 2002

The Mahanoy Area Historical Society was called to order by President Larry Levy, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were: Lorrie Bennick, Larry Levy, Teresa McCord, Michael A. Cheslock, Susan Zimmerman, Michael Klinosky, Peg Grigalonis, Charlotte Maurey and Frank Selgrath. The June minutes were read by the Secretary. Motion to accept by Frank Selgrath, seconded by Charlotte Maurey.

Secretary - Notes were received with membership dues from Krista Gromalski and Fred Schumacher. Krista offered assistance with publicity, even though she resides out of the area (publishes a magazine) and Mr. Schumacher thanked us for preserving the history of the area. A motion was made by Peg Grigalonis, seconded by Susan Zimmerman to approve the Secretary's report. All in favor.

It was also noted that the family of George Nahas, a former owner of the Visitor Center building, were pleased with the progress on the Visitors Center and offered to take part in the dedication ceremony. Treasurer's Report - balance as of June 24, 2002 - \$3,242.18, deposits of \$721 from Community Day, expenses of \$68.36 for flyers & \$17 for stamps, ending balance of \$3,877.82. Motion to accept by Peg Grigalonis, seconded by Frank Selgrath, all in favor.

Membership - Peg Grigalonis reported that we have 73 paid members to date and that a lot of people took applications at the Community Day. A question was asked whether we should have a stand at the Fireman's Convention Parade. Larry will look into the cost and inform the committee.

Fund Raising - There are still t-shirts left. New projects (Christmas balls) will be researched.

Property & Artifacts - no report

Public Relations - Michael Cheslock reported that Community Day was very successful and should result in a net profit of \$600-\$700. A full financial report will be completed. Lorrie will send thank you letters on behalf of the Society to all persons/business who donated to the event, Michael to provide list of names.

Visitors Center - Michael, Susan, Lorrie and Larry attended a press conference was held on Friday, July 26, 2002 to announce the PADOT T-21 funding of \$150,000 for façade repairs and interior renovations. Another \$100,000 is needed to complete the total project, however the lobby and 2nd floor is expected to be completed in 2-3 weeks and the Visitors Center should be open by November. It was also discussed that Larry should be notified of all events/meetings, etc regarding the Visitors Center, as he is the project chairman. A meeting will be held Wed. Aug 21 at 7PM at the Library to start planning displays. Peg Grigalonis and Frank Selgrath met with the Architect and shared blueprints of the layout of the Visitors Center.

Christmas Tour - a meeting has been set for Wednesday, August 21 at 6 PM at the Library. Larry will contact them for permission to use the facility.

A motion was made by Frank Selgrath, seconded by Susan Zimmerman, not to hold any type of Halloween activities this year due to the involvement with the Visitor Center project.

A newsletter is being planned for the end of August. Please submit all your articles to Lorrie Bennick prior to the next meeting.

New Business - discussion was held again the Society's double website status. Michael Cheslock agreed to contact Nick Yutko to discuss the best way to update the sight or link all together. Michael Cheslock asked about the SCA and Neighborhood Revitalization Program. Lorrie explained that this was for a specific residential neighborhood and could not assist in business development. He was referred to the Borough Manager for additional information.

Peg Grigalonis discussed the grant application to PHMC. The Society determined the 2 avenues to pursue were: Technical assistance to learn the proper way to catalogue and store artifacts; pursue microfilming of local church records (birth, marriage, death) for genealogical research. A motion was made by Michael Cheslock, seconded by Charlotte Maurey, to pursue these venues, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 on a motion by Peg G, seconded by frank S.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie Bennick, Secretary

MAHANOEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
September 30, 2002

The Mahanoy Area Historical Society was called to order by President Larry Levy, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance were: Lorrie Bennick, Larry Levy, Teresa McCord, Peg Grigalonis, Rose Flamini, George Krall, and Frank Selgrath.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the August minutes was made by George Krall, seconded by Peg Grigalonis.

Secretary – An informational flyer was received by the Pennsylvania Humanities. A letter was received from Michael Cheslock announcing his resignation as Treasurer. A motion was made by George Krall, seconded by Peg Grigalonis accepting the resignation. Members mentioned their thanks to Michael and hoped he would remain a member of the society.

Treasurer's Report – A beginning balance of \$3,613.02, deposits of \$80 and no expenditures. New balance as of October 30, 2002 - \$3,693.02. Motion to accept by Rose Flamini, seconded by George Krall.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Peg reported 1 new membership. The newsletter is ready to be mailed and should be out as soon as we purchase stamps.

Fundraising – None

Artifacts – Rose Flamini reported the following donations: Joe Nahas donated "Glimpses of Yesteryear", Melina Captinio donated a book "Buried Black Treasure"; a menu from George's Restaurant and Quasi-Centennial Book from Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Lubichusky; an antique carbide light from Favorite Finds Antiques; and from Marion Bellam – a coat hanger, from Miles & Timms, Money bag from American Bank, letter from 1st Presbyterian Church 1940, book on household tips from Union Nat'l Bank, and a Guinan's Store Shopping Guide. All artifacts will be displayed/stored in the new Visitors Center.

Public Relations – no report.

Visitors Center – looking for ideas for displays. There will be room for 3 central displays. Suggested were – miner, factory woman, Lakewood/Lakeside display. It will take 4 weeks to finish the museum area once the change order is issued.

Christmas Tour – Peg Grigalonis – will be held on December 14. Looking for winery to donate wine for luncheon. Tours/lunch will be held at Kaeirs Mansion and Smith Mansion. \$15 per person, limit of 22 at Kaeirs, 10 at Smiths per seating. The next meeting will be held Wednesday Oct 16 at 7 PM at the Good American Fire Company.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 on a motion by Peg G, seconded by George Krall.

Respectfully submitted,
Lorrie Bennick, Secretary

MAHANOEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Monday, October 28, 2002

Call to Order by President Larry Levy, recited Pledge of Allegiance. In attendance – Susan Zimmerman, Rose Flamini, Dolly Wagner, Frank Selgrath, Teresa McCord, Larry Levy, Charles Savage, Joan Goodman, Charlotte Maurey.

Secretary – minutes were read by Larry Levy, accepted by Rose Flamini (as corrected – spelling of names) seconded by Dolly Wagner.

Correspondence – The Dressing of the Evergreens invitation was received for November 30th. Discussion was held a motion was made by Rose F. to participate, seconded by Dolly W.

Treasurer report – none. Accepted by Rose, seconded by Dolly.

Membership – Rose had info from Peg. Letter written regarding dues is ready to be sent. Peg wants a stamp with a return address for the historical society. Motion to accept by Dolly, seconded by Joan Goodman. Peg also requested a check for \$37 for stamps.

Fundraising – shirts and hats are still available for Christmas. A check was received by Mary Pompei for \$50 for her dues and the balance as a contribution.

Property and artifacts – Rose – no report. Frank Selgrath asked for the use of the tax number to purchase a book for the historical society (the book will be used to develop a pictorial/written history of Mahanoy Area).

Public Relations & Historic preservation – we need someone to replace Michael Cheslock. Will be put in newsletter.

Christmas House Tour & Dinner – Saturday Dec 14 – Peg reported: Queen of Tarts will cater – cost is \$15 per ticket. Larry read the menu choices. Reservations will be made with Teresa. Next meeting November 13, 7PM at the firehouse.

Business for the good of the organization: Mahanoy Alumni HS Association member Gerry Scully is willing to donate a computer that they purchased. Also, excluded from last month's minutes was the offer of a display case from the alumni association (along with memorabilia) – as reported by Frank Selgrath.

Next meeting date is November 25.

Website – Nick is supposed to put info on it for us. Cybervania – email him with info to put on on website – list of officers.

Motion to adjourn by Charlotte M. seconded by Joan Goodman.

MAHANAY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Meeting Minutes – November 25, 2002

In attendance: Lorrie Bennick, Rose Flamini, Travis, Kramer, Charlotte Maurey, Bernice Narrow, George F. Krall, Nicholas Yutko, Susan Zimmerman, Frank Selgrath, Dolly Wagner, Lawrence Levy, Joan Goodman, Leslie Richardson, Kathy Wufsus, Ray Eichman, Teresa McCord.

The meeting was called to order by President Larry Levy. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Secretary's Report – None

Treasurer's report – Due to the resignation of Michael Cheslock, the books must be audited prior to assigning to new treasurer Peg Grigalonis. Susan Zimmerman volunteered to assist Lorrie with audit of the treasurer's books. Motion to approve by Charlotte Maurey, seconded by Bernice Narrow.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Peg turned over membership to Teresa and Susan. The Dues continue to come in. Susan suggested that members send in a stamp-self addressed envelope if they want a membership card returned to them. Nick will post membership application on the web site.

Fund Raising – Frank Selgrath needs the PA State Tax ID number. Larry will send info in to get the number. Small Games of Chance license – no decision made yet at this time to apply.

Artifacts – Dave Jarrett submitted the following items: Ledger of POSA, b bank checks 1962-1966 various dates, election material, order slips for coal breaker, 9 Reading Anthracite newspapers circa 1960's, medicine bottle, Rang Dairy, Also received a bus sign and dressmaker form. Gerry Scully has offered to donate mannequins for the societies use. Joe Tumas donated a copy of the 1923 St. Canicus Parrish Campaign Souvenir. A motion was made by Frank Selgrath, seconded by Peg Grigalonis, to not physically accept any more donations until we move into the new facility.

Public Relations & Historical Preservation – Lorrie agreed to call PHMC to check on the status of the grant for technical assistance. Since Michael Cheslock resigned, members were asked to assist in program planning. Lorrie Bennick offered to take over the programming position. Motion made by Frank Selgrath, seconded by Charlotte Maurey appointing Lorrie to that position.

Visitor Center update – Lorrie informed the group that construction has started on the Visitor Center section and should be completed around the New Year. The next meeting can be held in the building, on the second floor.

Christmas Tour – Peg updated the group on the progress of the Christmas Tour. The tour was almost sold out as of the meeting date. Lorrie was asked to call the Pottsville Republican again. She agreed to refax and email the tour notice and request photographers for the event. Peg reviewed duties for all volunteers.

Old Business- Project: School index of old census 1930 Census – we will be able to use the database – Ancestry.com at the Visitor Center. Waiting for response from PHMC to help us develop correct way to categorize records.

New Business - Joan Goodman discussed the need for a tenant policy and an event policy. The group agreed that we must look into purchasing insurance to cover the donated items and liability. A motion was made by Lorrie Bennick, seconded by Susan Zimmerman, to purchase a one day policy for the Christmas tour.

Rails to Trails Update – Lorrie invited members to attend future meeting of the potential rails to trails hiking/biking path that may be developed for the Mahanoy Area. The next meeting will be held on December 14, 2002. Meeting after that is January 30, 2003 at Shenandoah Boro Hall, 7 pm. Open to the public.

Kathy Wufsus asked if the historical society would again sponsor the December 29 church tours from 1-5 PM. Motion made by Rose F., seconded by Peg G. All were in favor. Kathy will make arrangements with churches.

Nick Yutko will meet with Larry and Frank Selgrath to get web site info straight.

Nick Y. distributed a petition to save the Deer Lake Drive In.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 30 at 7 PM at the Visitor Center.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned with a motion by Rose Flamini, seconded by Bernice Narrow.