



MAHANOY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1-7 West Center Street
P.O. Box 127
Mahanoy City, PA 17948
570-773-1295

mahsr@mahanoycityvisitorscenter.com

www.mahanoyhistory.org

Francis Senglar
President

Thomas Ward
Vice President
Joseph Flamini
Financial Secretary
Robert Fallan
Room Manager

Peg Ward Coombe
Secretary
Angela Witconis
Treasurer

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, July 28, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Frank Senglar, Thomas Ward, Angela Witconis, Peg Coombe, Bob Fallan, Rose Flamini, Joseph Flamini, Dolly Wagner, and Charles Savage.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Tom Ward.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June meeting were read, with a motion to accept by Joseph Flamini, and seconded by Rose Flamini.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was presented by Angela Witconis. Balance in the General Fund as of July 28, 2008 is \$13,439.81. Memorial Fund Savings balance is \$1688.41. Paypal checking account balance is \$259.55. Certificate of Deposit is valued at \$1081.55 and matures 10-6-08. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Dolly Wagner and seconded by Bob Fallan.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Peg Coombe reported that there were two items of correspondence which requested research information. Bob Fallan and Frank Senglar will respond to them with pertinent information.

Frank Senglar received a letter from author Dennis McIlroy describing his new book "The Horseshoe Curve", and advising of his availability to speak to groups. Peg Coombe will telephone him for more details regarding the cost and feasibility of scheduling.

COMMITTEES

Artifacts: Frank Senglar reported that John Lieberman donated a box of information on the Kaier family, including records about the contesting of Charles Kaier's will. Frank Senglar also received the St. Canicus School drum from Father Glosser.

Community Preservation: Tom Ward reported that the form agreeing to accept responsibility for installing a plaque at the Baptist Church has been signed and will be returned to Joan Goodman.

Membership: Frank Senglar reported that current membership stands at 243, with 123 paid for 2008 and beyond.

Museum Room: Bob Fallan reported that 1 item is still out on loan to the County Historical Society, and that all of the Schertzinger items have been returned and logged in. Bob Fallan also proposed purchasing a disposable camera and taking photos of the museum room to record the contents, and then store the photos off-site. Money will be taken out of petty cash for this purpose. Bob also volunteered to take photos of the Kaier monument in St. Fidelis Cemetery.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Tom Ward reported that the Victor Schertzinger event was an enjoyable evening, attended by several of the members.

Frank Senglar asked for an update on publicity for DVD sales. Bob Fallan will try to get some newspaper advertising and Tom Ward will extend the television turn-around advertisement. Peg Coombe said that Shirley Ryan has sent email information to her contacts.

Frank Senglar asked for volunteers to form a committee to explore options for the tribute to Bill O'Brien. Angela Witconis, Dolly Wagner, and Charles Savage have agreed to serve. Dolly Wagner will contact Bill O'Brien's wife for information and a photograph. Bob Fallan will research plaque sizes and costs.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom Ward requested that the stock of DVD's in the Historical Room be replenished to keep up with demand.

Treasurer Angela Witconis reported on her research into options for transferring some account balances to money markets or CD's. Tom Ward made a motion to put \$10,000

from the General Fund into a 13 month CD at M&T Bank. The motion was seconded by Joseph Flamini and carried by the group. A motion was made by Rose Flamini to put the balance from the Memorial Fund Savings into the General Fund. The motion was seconded by Bob Fallan and carried by the group. Frank Senglar proposed thinking about consolidating funds further when the CD comes due in October.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM on a motion by Tom Ward and seconded by Charles Savage. The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on Monday, August 25, 2008. An Executive Committee meeting will be held at 1 PM on Thursday, August 21.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society



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The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, October 27, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Peg Coombe, Thomas Ward, Francis Senglar, Charles Savage, Joan Goodman, Bob Fallan, Kathy Wufsus, and Angela Witconis.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Kathy Wufsus.

MINUTES

Minutes of the August meeting were read and approved, with a motion to accept by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Joan Goodman. There were no minutes for September because there were not enough members at the scheduled September meeting to establish a quorum.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Angela Witconis reported that as of September 29, 2008 the following balances were reflected: General Fund - \$15,488.94 Paypal Account - \$259.55

CD, which matures 10-6-08, - \$1081.55

Account balances as of October 27, 2008 are as follows: General Fund - \$6,069.59

Included in the General Fund are Memorial Fund Monies in the amount of \$1,708.76.

Balance in CD, which matures 11-10-09, is \$11,137.38. Included in the CD are Memorial Fund Monies of \$1,137.38. Paypal balance remains at \$259.55.

The Treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Tom Ward.

CORRESPONDENCE

Requests were received from both the Mahanoy Area Junior Class and the Golf Team for a donation. It was noted that the Historical Society has a policy not to make such donations.

A letter from Westfield Group/ Seltzer Insurance Company was received, requesting to re-evaluate coverage. It was decided that no action is needed at this time.

Schuylkill County Visitors Bureau sent an application for renewal of membership, which gives a listing in their book, at a cost of \$40. It was moved and seconded by Joan Goodman and Kathy Wufsus that the Society advertise in this manner. Joan Goodman will contact them to see if we meet their deadline.

COMMITTEES

Artifacts: Tom Ward reported that the local Boy Scouts asked for their things to be returned to them since they are becoming active again. The items they donated have been returned.

Room: Bob Fallan picked up the plaque in honor of Bill O'Brien. A misprint has been discovered on the plaque and it will be returned to the company for correction.

Community Preservation: Joan Goodman reported that the plaque for Zion Baptist Church has been received. Tom Ward reported that the plaque presentation service has been scheduled for Saturday, November 15 at 2 PM at Zion Baptist Church. There will be a buffet reception following the service at a cost of \$15. Seating is limited and interested persons may see Tom Ward for tickets. Joan Goodman also reported that the wording for the plaque for St. Paul's Church has been approved and the plaque will be ordered. It was suggested that St. Paul's might be interested in hosting this year's Christmas gathering which alternates among community churches. Kathy Wufsus will contact Rose Flamini and look into this possibility.

Membership: Frank Senglar reported that membership stands at 256, with 120 paid through 2007 and 133 paid through 2008.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At the Executive Committee meeting on Thursday, October 23, 2008, Frank Selgrath made the officers aware that the Historical Society's by-laws require the existence of separate Memorial Fund monies. Mr. Selgrath agreed that listing the Memorial Funds as a line item in the Treasurer's report would be acceptable, rather than making adjustments to existing accounts. Angela Witconis explained that there is a Memorial Book which documents all Memorial Fund donations. A motion to list the Memorial Fund monies as line items in the treasurer's report, keeping current account balances the same, was made by Tom Ward and seconded by Bob Fallan. The motion was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Senglar proposed that the Historical Society purchase desk calendars to give out during the holiday season for a small donation. The calendars will list the telephone number, website, address, and hours for the Historical Society. A motion was made by

Joan Goodman and seconded by Charles Savage to order 100 desk calendars at a cost of \$114.

A motion was made by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Charles Savage that the Historical Society use Memorial Fund monies in the amount of \$400 to purchase one of the new Christmas wreaths that will be part of the community's holiday street light decorations.

A motion was made by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Bob Fallan to donate \$300 from the Memorial Fund to the Rhoades Fund.

It was noted that the Historical Society will not be open for Veteran's Day on Tuesday, November 11.

Frank Senglar proposed the idea of putting out a newsletter in the near future. After discussion, it was agreed that it would be more practical to incorporate a newsletter as part of our website. Peg Coombe has agreed to write a newsletter for the website if provided with input as to content. However, it was noted that the current person in charge of our website has not been updating in a timely fashion. Tom Ward will find out who sets up the library's website and at what cost, and the Society will explore other possible individuals to manage our website.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 on a motion by Bob Fallan and seconded by Tom Ward. The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on Monday, November 24, 2008. An Executive Committee meeting will be held at 1 PM on Thursday, November 20.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
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Treasurer

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, November 24, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Rose Flamini, Swing Flamini, Ray Soto, Francis Senglar, Angela Witconis, Charles Savage, and Kathy Wufsus.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Kathy Wufsus.

MINUTES

Motion to approve by Swing Flamini, seconded by Ray Soto.

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund balance as of November 24, 2008 is \$5,604.79, including Memorial Fund Monies of \$1,748.76. CD balance is \$11,137.38, which includes Memorial Fund monies of \$1,137.38. Pay Pal account balance is \$388.81. A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Rose Flamini.

CORRESPONDENCE

A request was made by the Schuylkill Christmas Gala for a donation. No response. A thank you was received from Lois Griffiths, Mahanoy Area Chamber of Commerce, acknowledging the Historical Society's contribution toward the new Christmas decorations.

A renewal policy for building insurance from Westfield Insurance Company was received, effective December 14, 2008, at a cost of \$500.

COMMITTEES

Community Preservation – St. Paul's UCC Open House will be Sunday, January 4, 2009 at 2 PM. We will present the church with a plaque. Refreshments will be served afterward in their basement. No tickets needed. Admission is free and open to the public.

Membership – 138 paid through 2008

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Historical Building will be open Saturday night for the Christmas Tree Lighting and the arrival of Santa.

Historical Society would like to present a plaque to the family of Bill O'Brien in January. Jan 18th at 2 PM - We will ask the family if the date will be okay.

Marjorie Fletcher will drop the non-paid members.

NEW BUSINESS

Angela Witconis stated that her niece wrote a book about the coal region, and would like to have a book signing in the Historical Society sometime in January. Author is Amanda Nuss.

A tree is needed in the window for Saturday night.

Peg Coombe will contact L.J. Brylewski regarding a web-site. Cost will be \$300 set-up and \$300 to put it on-line. He charges by the minute, not the hour. He takes care of the library's web-site. Frank will get more information about this.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Rose Flamini and seconded by Charles Savage.

Minutes recorded by Kathy Wufsus