

Minutes  
JENISON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION  
February 18, 2016

Present: Ken Williams, Yvonne Williams, Ruth Lowing, Nellie DeLaat, Liz Timmer, Gene Kort, Ronnie Aungst, Linda Droog, Mary Raper, Mike Timmer, Carol Dille, Ron Villerius, Barb Semeyn.

**Association /Museum Business**

Approve Agenda: Motioned and supported to approve as presented. Carried.

Review January Minutes: Motion made by Mike, seconded by Ruth to accept as written. Carried.

Treasurer's Report: Ronnie and Mike motioned to approve as written. Carried.

Historian/Curator's Report:

- Timeline Update: Ken shared a mockup of the timeline with pictures and events.
- Book Inventory: Ralph and Mary Hodgkinson have completed work on monetary value of our books in the back parlor bookcase.
- Kara Schelhaas, great granddaughter of the Besteman family called with interest in what information we might have on them. Nothing of significance was found.
- Ken shared a picture of the Jenison General Store when the front porch was removed to facilitate lowering of the entire store by 3 feet and the porch and steps were then put back on. (Thanks to Mike's research after the meeting, this was done in 1953. The Jenison Food Market opened in May of 1953 in the former L&L Jenison store.)
- Ken shared a 1947 Diary of Florence L. Johnson who was a friend and maid for Bessy Hatchett at 125 College. This is being donated by Mike and Virginia Timmer.
- Future Display Ideas: 1956 Tornado, Fanning Mill to the attic, would like to do a systematic photo room by room inventory and also work on photos of current and past commercial, residential and township buildings.

Township Representative's Report: Ron shared some pictures of the new Senior Center Building on 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. It is scheduled for completion in the spring as well as Rosewood Park improvements. DeWitt station on the corner of Baldwin and Cottonwood will be coming down by 2018 to make room for planned 5 lane road on Cottonwood from Bauer to Baldwin. Bike/walking path around 8<sup>th</sup> Ave Lake is in for upgrades as well as a new path planned for Maplewood Park. K-mart property still in the hands of the developers, the old Hobby Lobby site is now opened as Rebounderz (indoor recreation of trampolines and games.) Chicago Dr. street scape has been approved from Main St to Cottonwood turnaround as well as the Veteran's Plaza has been approved for the 200 Baldwin site.

Acquisitions Report: Barb only has the diary to check in.

Maintenance Report: Allied Roofing has been hired and will be repairing front porch flashing

### Master Plan Report:

- Timeline: See Historian's report
- Inventory: Ruth and Sandy continue to work on this
- Clear coat Basement: Mike is waiting for warmer weather to start.

Association Sponsored Events: Discussion was held on the Memorial Day Parade. It was suggested that we find an old car and put banners on sides. Ron V. will check on a car.

May Meeting Format: Ken and Gene plan to do a presentation/slide show on the 'Turn of the Century-Jenison.' It's planned for May 19 at the Rosewood Church Youth Bldg. Still in question is a June 16 meeting possibly at the Senior Center.

March & April Open House: Liz reviewed and changed several of the History Mystery questions. We will have them printed up and ready for the open houses. Plan to have a monthly drawing for those that participate.

Name Badges: After some discussion, motion was made by Linda and seconded by Ruth to order new name badges through Liz's daughter for all the docents and several with 'volunteer' printed on them. They are to be gold with black lettering with magnetic clips. Cost for bulk rate is \$10/each. Carried.

Newsletter: Yvonne has written an article about the Lumber Barons of Jenison which will be used in the next Newsletter and Mary Raper has volunteered to work on researching and writing an article on another Jenison resident. Ken wrote a very nice article on 'Focus on Your Museum' which was featured in this month's Member News. He highlighted many former association members and their contributions. Ruth is still looking for someone willing to take it over.

History Roundtable: Yvonne shared the dates to the next meeting at GVSU Library on March 24. You can contact the Koetje Office at the college for registration information. Mary Raper will try to attend.

Grand Rapids Public Museum Fashion Show and Tea: 4 monthly dates were shared. Yvonne and Ronnie have signed up for the April 7 tea.

Old Printer: After receiving a new donation, the old printer was offered to anyone who was interested. Consensus was to recycle it.

Meeting adjourned.