

**JERICHO HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES – May 9, 2024**

Board Members Present: Ann Squires, Sue Richardson, Shelly Dionne, Keiko Williams

Meeting Called to order at 6:06 PM

Agenda: as presented by Keiko Williams

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS:** None in attendance

**OFFICERS REPORTS:**

**Recording Secretary**

1. Present corrected Minutes for approval – Not available, recording secretary not in attendance

**Corresponding Secretary**

1. No report

**Treasurer**

1. JHS's IRS Form 990 tax return is under review. Stacie believes it will be done by the 15<sup>th</sup> to avoid filing an extension as was necessary last year.
2. Stacie will give Keiko the necessary information to purchase the new laptop.
3. Stacie hopes to update the PayPal Giving Fund profile this weekend.
4. The board had no questions about financial statements distributed by Stacie last month and thanked her for getting them out.

**Vice President**

1. Eliot Lothrop's Mill assessment report will be in shortly. He had to remeasure some things. He feels strongly that the foundation has drifted some six inches from its original location and must be anchored to prevent further movement. Eliot is willing to work with JHS to secure grants and find appropriate contractors. Sue will request he come to the meeting to answer questions.
2. Annual fire extinguisher inspection was completed last week.

**President**

1. Property Tax Status – Ann and Sue have spoken with Lori Dykema of the town listers office. She still doesn't know what the assessment will be. They will try to get an appointment with the select board to discuss how the situation will be handled going forward. Sue said that if taxes were based on last year's assessed values – taxable \$310,200, nontaxable \$660,300 – the tax would be \$6,919. Rates will be set in July. Shelly suggested perhaps there could be some negotiation. Sue said JHS will request forgiveness. Ann put forward that we not pay the taxes, allowing the town to seize the Mill House.
2. Keiko asked about the riverbank status. Sue said that without John Abbot, there has been a group effort at the town to keep his projects going. While Paula Carrier is up on things, there's no telling how things will go in the near future. ECI showing up to move boulders is not off the table. Sue is going to insist that JHS be represented in future conversations regarding the riverbank or grants. Sue will be drafting an email to Selectboard member Catherine McMains asking if there's any reason why we shouldn't contact ECI directly.

**CRAFT SHOP:**

1. Strategic Plan and Annual Work Plan – Sue submitted the plans via email. They are filed in Teams.
2. Income – Sue reported an outstanding month. April gross sales: up 133% from last year (2023: \$4467, 2024: \$10,410). Even without the eclipse factor, there was a 47.34% year-over-year increase.
3. Security cameras have been installed. Cameras now cover previous gaps and are much clearer.
4. Sue reported a \$50 donation from an eclipse visitor

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Mill House Rental – Shelly sought to clarify the purpose of hiring a property manager to find tenants. The intent was to bring impartiality to the process. Sue and Stacie had concerns about the lack of rental history and borderline background reports for prospective tenants. There was no final agreement on selection process. Stacie will provide historical utilities cost information to share with prospects. Sue suggested negotiating the rent for ideal tenants if utility costs were an issue.
2. Collections Committee – Keiko will be buying a computer this month. The board agreed to join the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH), which, among other things, will entitle JHS to a 20% discount on PastPerfect archival software. Keiko will pursue the membership and purchase the software.
  - a. Side conversation – Sue will look into whether to renew the Vermont Chamber of Commerce membership based on cost (\$477)/ benefits.
3. Web / IT – Keiko is working on an IT policy that outlines current roles, and security and succession protocols. The working document will be filed in Teams. It should not be printed or shared outside the board. As time permits, she'll draft strategic and work plans.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Events – Ann will work with Tammy Davis on a presentation for June. Shelly has spoken with Jesse at Ale and Bean. He's up for a Jericho History Trivia night, date TBD. Keiko will work on Readings from the Cilley Hill Mail for July.

**NEW BUSINESS:** No new Business

**NEXT MEETING:** June 13, 2024, 6:00 PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
*Keiko Williams for*  
*Betty Koshinsky*  
Recording Secretary