

TOWN OF DUNN
DOWNSVILLE COMMUNITY MUSEUM COMMITTEE
September 11, 2023

The Downsville Community Museum Committee met at 5:30pm on **Monday, September 11, 2023** at the Museum. Present: Suzanne Messa, Jane DeFlorin, Lynnette Smith, John Stalter, and Vicki Price. Absent: Arlene Cartwright, Jeanette Daines, Forrest Johnson, Craig Thibado

The meeting was called to order by President Suzanne Messa.

1. Notes of August 14, 2023 were reviewed.
2. September Treasurers Report was reviewed.
3. Public Comment:
 - A. Good reviews received about the museum at the pancake breakfast.
4. Correspondence:
 - A. Email from Irene Skroch who is doing research into the John Stavrum family and may visit.
 - B. Email from Linda Deutsch Lambert who will be sending pictures from the album of her great aunt Rachel Idel Smith.
 - C. Email from Carol Biesterveld about a Rachel Wuollet from Duluth who would like to visit the museum on September 23rd. Suzanne is touching base with them.
5. Donations:
 - A. Jane DeFlorin donated a letter from the former Creamery in Wisconsin about the 3 valuable by-products of the dairy business which need to be considered when the books are balanced. It will be displayed in the milk bottle and creamery display area.
 - B. Jerry Wieland – Odd Fellows hat worn in parades, eye sovenior of 75th year of Great Lodge in Detroit, MI, and Odd Fellows license plate. Consensus to accept.
 - C. Martha Peabody – unique baby tram used by the Peabody family. Consensus was to accept.
 - D. Mark Flatisek – Eugene L. Weber Trucking advertisement on screwdriver given out to patrons as a Christmas gift in the 1950's. Consensus was to accept.
 - E. Steve Macheskey – 1927 Dunn Co. Platbook. Consensus to accept.
 - F. Generous donations of money were received at the Downsville Day pancake breakfast totaling \$850.
6. Displays
 - A. Logging display has been sanded and oiled by Lynnette and figurines displayed for Downsville Day. People were interested and impressed with the display. The figurines will be put away for the winter.
 - B. Post Office building was completed on the inside and open for Downsville Day. Matt Messa and Larry and Cheryl Sagstetter worked on the completion.
7. Building/Maintenance:
 - A. Joist/bathroom floor repair – Allen Bormtrager of Double A Construction viewed the project on September 10th submitting an estimate of \$4,000 or under with completion probably in January 2024. Matt Messa and Larry Sagstetter are also interested in completing the project which would also include replacement and upgrade of plumbing. They will confirm with an estimate to be considered at the October meeting.
 - B. A second gas tank was delivered and set up by Schauls in Durand for the grill used for pancake breakfasts. This will be a twin tank to the existing tank and delivery of refills will be done by Schauls. Bill and donation from Schauls has not been received yet.
8. Events:
 - A. August 26th Fall Pancake Breakfast/Downsville Day: The event was a success with approximately 450 people served. Volunteers were: Mike Hulett, Kris Winter, Mark & Cory Weber, Louie & Mac Weber, Drew & Carson Whittig, Remington Wayne George, Ryan & Kaitlyn DeFlorin, Rose Nowaskey, Michelle Lecander. Thank yous were completed by Suzanne and signed by the committee members.
 - B. August 26th from 2-4pm Jan Szalai offered a class on survival bags which was attended by 6 people. He will be sent a thank you.
 - C. Halloween – The museum will hold trick or treating from **4-6pm on Tuesday, October 31st** and will distribute treat bags. Suzanne will apply for a Thrivent card. Price will contact the Downsville School to see if they will have a parade of students.
 - D. Pictures with Santa will be held **Sunday, December 3rd from 11am-1pm**. Santa has confirmed. Lynnette will apply for a Thrivent card. There will be a variety of silent auction items: Lynnette - Christmas frame; Jane DeFlorin – blanket. There will be fewer porchpots and wreaths than in the past.

- E. Suggestion was made by Lynnette to use the post office building for area students and children to drop off letters to Santa.
- 9. Museum Attendance Reports
 - A. August 19 (Smith): 15 visitors; \$6 food sales; \$5 donations
 - B. August 26 (Downsville Day): Sales included \$6 ice cream/pop; \$10 mug; \$15 Civil War book; \$20 cookies; \$12 pancake mix.
 - C. September 2 (Smith): 4 visitors; \$5 food; \$10 donations
 - D. September 9 (Messa): 0 visitors; \$4 food
- 10. Museum Saturday Volunteers: Consensus was to close the museum on Saturdays and reopen in the spring effective immediately. Special party visits will still be scheduled along with Halloween and Christmas events.
- 11. Other
 - A. Ben Powers has indicated he has a shed of antique items the museum could view. Vicki will arrange a time with him for a visit/
- 12. Set Next Meeting Date –October 9th at 5:30pm at the **TOWN HALL**.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm

Vicki Price, Secretary