

CURATORS COMMITTEE – DRAFT MINUTES
September 21, 2022
Canaan Museum

Present: Donna Dunkerton, Reginald Barney, Daryl Robbins, Patsy Carter, Jan Kulig, Susan Nero, Carol Bergeron, and Deb Tenney

1. Old Business

- a. Jan Kulig agreed to take minutes, but requested that Susan format and distribute them.
- b. Minutes of September 21, 2022 were approved.
- c. 2022 Goals for Curators: The goals had been reviewed by all those present; there were no further questions. John Bergeron has met with the individual who will be creating the storm windows for the museum. Hopefully, the windows will be installed this fall. This project has been funded by the Canaan Historical Society, a "Moose Plate" grant, and a grant from the Byrne Foundation. Thanks to Donna for writing the grant for the Byrne Foundation.
- d. Stove Restoration Project: Donna continues her work on this project. Susan mentioned seeing an old stove outside in North Conway with plants in it!
- e. Male Mannequin: The mannequin is dressed, thanks to Reggie for his donation of clothing, and is on display. Donna mentioned that there have been many compliments on the mannequin. No inventory numbers are needed for the mannequins if used as a display.
- f. Other: Carol brought to the group's attention the need to upgrade the donation box. She suggested that the box have a clear side so that visitors can see that donations are welcomed. A sign would also be helpful, perhaps indicating that admission is free, but that donations help to fund future projects. An issue could also be that few people carry cash; a possible solution could be that the library has "hot spots" available to loan in order to access WiFi in an effort to facilitate giving. It should also be noted on the Town of Canaan Newsflash that masks are required, and are available, at the Museum.

2. New Business

- a. Carol presented a comprehensive background of the Museum Curators and their relationship to the Historical Society. Information in the 1960 Town report indicated that the decision was made to establish a Canaan Museum, which was opened the following year. The Museum has gone from 260-275 items in the 1990's to 2275 items today. In 2011, the Historical Society was created as a private, non-profit organization to supply funds to the Museum. It has no oversight role. Funds can be used for the Museum with their approval.
- b. Jan has been in touch with signs.com with regard to the cost and dimensions of banners that they have available. (Standard \$110.84 (24"x81"); Premium \$211.14 (36"x92"); Deluxe \$369.50 (33"x81"-two-sided). The company will either assist with design or there is a template available on their website. Jan has left messages for the Graphic Arts teacher at the high school to see whether that class might assist in creation of the banner, but has not yet heard from him. It is the goal to create a display about Noyes Academy and perhaps the Canaan Fire, an event that occurred 100 years ago. Funds are currently available for the Noyes Banner, and a request will be made of the Historical Society to fund a banner for the Canaan Fire as well. Donna has already made very detailed poster displays about these events which could be used as a resource.

c. The mud rug that was purchased has worked out well. There was some discussion about purchase of another, bigger rug, but the Museum will close on October 11th, so a decision was tabled until next season.

d. Displays for next season: Donna has created posters about the Canaan Fire and Noyes Academy. Gary Hamel may be creating a mural for the hardware store. Dave Wilson, former MVRHS Music teacher has contacted Donna about creating music for the 100th anniversary of the fire, but Donna questioned the appropriateness of the content of what he had planned.

e. Publicity for the Museum: Susan will work on articles for Opening Day, as well as monthly updates on the Canaan Newsflash.

f. Updates on Museum Curator info on the Canaan website: At the June meeting, Alton Hennessy had expressed an interest in doing this task.

g. Newspaper articles: The group discussed how to preserve the many valuable newspaper articles that Donna has gathered. Scanning would be a solution, but we need to explore how to accomplish this. The State Library was mentioned as a potential resource, as well as Amy Thurber at the Canaan Town Library. A link to the articles could then be on our website.

h. Copy of Current Museum Inventory for the Town: This is required every two years and is due in December 2022. Susan will get the memory stick containing this info to the town.

3. Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 22, 2023, either at the Museum, Health Center, or Senior Center.