

## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2024 OF THE BOARD OF THE HILLSBORO HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Board of Directors of the Hillsboro Historical Society (HHS) held its monthly meeting for December on December 5,

**In attendance:** Joseph Britton, Kathleen Blair, Ewa Czarnojanczyk, Steve Dobrott, Jeff Forbes, Val Hildreth-Werker (by phone), Karen Mast, Nichole Trushell and Robin Tuttle.

**The meeting was convened at 9:00 a.m.**

**Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting of November 2, 2024 were approved on a motion by Blair and seconded by Mast.

**Financial Report.** Czarnojanczyk reported the additional payment of \$52,000 from the budget for the construction of the Coach House. There will be one final payment from this line item, all of which is within budget.

Czarnojanczyk further reported that the museum is doing well. There were forty visitors on Saturday, November 30, who remained past the normal closing time of 3:00 until 4:30 and spent \$480 in the gift shop. This is noted in summation in the financial documents for November 2024 sent prior to the meeting: Statement of Activity by Class; Balance Sheet; and Profit and Loss.

Czarnojanczyk noted, with deep appreciation for his continuing service, that Garland Bills will no longer be volunteering at the museum beginning in December. She also noted with thanks the donation of Dunton Bounke, who was until recently a resident of the Hillsboro RV park, The Board will be ending a card of thanks to Mr. Bounke.

As a final item, Czarnojanczyk noted that she would, on behalf of the Board, be requesting that its accountant, move funds currently identified as "restricted " to "unrestricted" funds.

The Financial report was accepted on a motion by Trushell, seconded by Blair.

**Publications Report.** Britton noted that the November issue of GZP has been completed and sent to the President of the Hillsboro Community Center to note its availability. Britton will be coordinating mailing lists for the HHS and HCC member lists. He noted in process the project to include all past issues of the GZP on the HHS website.

**Summary of December 10 note from Nichole Trushell:** Nichole has restructured the Journal page on the HHS website and has entered two years (2024 & 2023) of the Journals to the page. There will likely be some edits. The link is: [hillsborohistoricalsociety.com](https://hillsborohistoricalsociety.com)

### **Black Range Museum Report.**

**Opening Hours of the Black Range Museum.** Following the Financial report, the President of the Board, called for discussion of a change in the days the Museum is open to the public. After discussion, the Board agreed that, beginning with the first weekend In January, the Museum will no longer be open on Sundays and will limit its open days to Fridays and Saturdays from 10:00 to 3:00, except on Holiday weekends when it will open again on Sundays from noon to 3:00. The Board agreed to this change.

Blair noted the decision to change the Museum's opening hours and continued with the **Report for November.** The Museum now has the resumes and examples of the works of all of the artists whose work is offered for sale in the gift shop, for those interested in this information. It will be included in the February GZP.

Blair also assembled and took welcome bags to six new residents of Hillsboro and Kingston. The bags included a one-

time 10% discount for one item in the gift shop. Forbes suggested that key contact numbers for the Library and Museum be included in future welcome bags. The HHS Christmas in the Foothills auction basket included a free membership to the HHS.

The problem with the Museum's printer appears to have resolved; though Paul Tooley of Ethos had not contacted Blair.

The Museum did not conduct a November highway clean up. It is required to conduct one twice a year to maintain its sponsorship signage; and thus the HHS needs to schedule a clean up.

Blair invited suggestions for future HHS-sponsored speakers, beginning in January.

**Coach House Progress.** Dobrott reported on the trip he and Rand Berger made on December 4 to the Lincoln Historic Site to determine if the doorway at the front of the museum was sufficiently wide to remove the Mountain Pride. The measurements indicated enough space to remove the carriage. Dobrott has subsequently learned that the State Historic Preservation Division has approved the HHS Scope of Work which includes payment to Berger for the stabilization of the carriage prior to its transfer to Hillsboro. Once the State approves the transfer to and ownership of the Mountain Pride, the HHS can consider insurance coverage. The Board discussed the possible filming by Bob Barnes of the process of transporting the carriage and its later restoration in Montana.

**Funding and fundraising.** Both the preliminary and grand opening of the Coach House represent opportunities for fundraising. Tuttle suggested an event describing the process for acquiring the Mountain Pride from the State and building the Coach House. This could launch fundraising for the coach's restoration and the development of the outdoor museum displays.

**Membership Mailing and Status.** Trushell noted that HHS membership is static. The most recent mail out to solicit new, and renew current, memberships was mailed on November 30. Trushell suggested that residents in Kingston and Hillsboro not currently members might be personally encouraged to apply to become members; and she provided a list of current members.

**Backyard landscaping.** Following the Board meeting, Steve Morgan briefed some members of the Board on plans for development of the Museum's outdoor space and conducted a tour of the area.

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 on a motion by Britton, seconded by Trushell.**