

Brooksville Historical Society
June 9, 2021
Minutes

Present were: Earl Clifford, Bob Bakeman, Eric Chase, Lorraine Dyer, Abbie McMillen, and Debbie Grimmig.

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the May 12, 2021 were distributed via e-mail and regular mail prior to the meeting. Lorraine Dyer made the motion to approve the minutes. Bob Bakeman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Reports – Treasurer Ellen Harford was not present at the meeting. Discussion on the May, 2021 report will be postponed until the July meeting.

Old Business

- A. Report on the Building Improvements Committee – Options for the new doors – Greg Leach of Vikings Hardware was present to provide options and pricing for the double front doors and the side doors. He suggested Therma-Tru Doors which are fiberglass, are more energy efficient, require less maintenance and have 3-point lock system. The 3-point lock system prevents the door from flexing and is more energy efficient. The doors have PVC trim and once painted, should not rot. There was a question as to whether the doors need panic bars. This should be checked with the code enforcement officer. The price quote was \$5,679 for two sets of double doors. There was consensus that the 12 pane windows and brushed nickel finish on lever-style door handles were more in keeping with the new windows and the character of the building. Mr. Leach will bring back an updated quote. Abbie McMillen made a motion to approve up to \$6,000 for two sets of doors. If the new quote is more than that amount, it will be brought back for another vote. Bob Bakeman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

The awning over the front doors will be added in September after the new doors are installed and after the visiting hours for the Museum have ended for the season. Earl Clifford agreed to do the construction work on the installation of the doors. Bob Bakeman will paint the railings, but will wait until the other work is completed before doing any other painting.

Grade stakes should be installed along the edge of the lower driveway because the drop off is difficult to see and there have been two incidences of vehicles dropping over the edge. Also, there should be some sort of barrier at the edge of the parking area between the road and the apple tree. Lorraine Dyer made the motion to authorize purchase of fertilizer and lime for the grass. Bob Bakeman seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- B. Update on the Cemetery Books – Edson Blodgett started a list of new burials at Mount Rest since the date of publication of the cemetery books to 2017. The town office maintains a list of deaths of Brooksville residents. This list will not include the burials of non-Brooksville residents who may be buried in Brooksville cemeteries. Edna Andrews and Ollie Jones did a lot of work on burial records and they may be good resources for information.
- C. Other – Yard Sale scheduled for August and will be coordinated with the date the Baptist Church Keepers hold their yard sale.

New Business

- A. Coverage of Museum Hours for July and August – Bob Bakeman volunteered to cover the Sunday hours. Debbie Grimmig plans on covering each day that the Museum is open for visitors.
- B. Other -- Jim Farr is the executor of Phil Farr's estate. He found some documents including the errata sheet for the Austin genealogy. If the BHS does not have a copy, he is willing to donate them.

There was discussion about George Higgins and how he might have arrived in the Brooksville area. It is believed that he arrived on one of the schooners, perhaps from the Caribbean. Murray Gray and his cousin Vita did some research on him and have a photograph of him with a pair of oxen.

Cindelyn Ebert's Research Project – Abbie McMillen has been in contact with Cindelyn Ebert who asked for assistance with research on her Gray family ancestors. She will be in Brooksville in August or September. Lorraine Dyer agreed to do some research on this request.

The BHS received a donation of 4 books by Eric Sloan from Debbie Thomson. Abbie McMillen also has books from this author and will donate them after she has completed her research project. Eric Sloan wrote about various items of Americana and his books are excellent resource materials when identifying items donated to the museum as well as for other research.

- C. Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 4:30 pm at the Museum