

March 17, 2023

Dear Historical Society Members:

We had another productive meeting on March 15 with over 40 members and guests in attendance and our president, Bill Henrich, presiding. Thank you! Our project planning for 2023 is in full swing and we always have plenty of opportunities for you to get involved at any level you desire - from chairing a committee to volunteering the day of an event. Please note we are trying to keep our meetings to about an hour in length with informal discussions afterwards so as not to take too much of your time.

If you are not able to attend our meetings please email us at **willoughby.historical@gmail.com** and one of our officers will be happy to discuss your comments and suggestions.

Rick DeVan, Co-VP

## **Meeting Minutes, 7:00 p.m., March 15, 2023**

### **Old Business**

#### **Social Media, Website, Email: Rick DeVan**

- 250 members; excellent open rate
- 103 visits; working on SEO
- Thoughts on modernizing the website to come

#### **Newsletter: Greg Patt**

- Looking for writers for the quarterly newsletters

#### **Vice-Presidents' Reports: Rick DeVan and Alan Hitchcox**

- Rick working on Committees and Projects.
- Alan can contribute a piece or two to the newsletter; hoping to come to Willoughby this summer.

## **New Business, Committee Reports**

### **Communications: Sandy Taddeo**

- Fulfilling various requests.
- Library staff is available to look up items from the News-Herald archives or assist with WHS information requests from the public.

### **Donation to Welcome Center**

- Discussed.
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### **Chesbrough House/Bank Tour: Mark Dutton and Deb Mullen**

- Moved to October.

### **Frank Lloyd Wright/Penfield House Tour: Lori Diemer**

- May not happen in May due to bookings.
- Additional ideas discussed.

### **Scavenger Hunt: Judy Artino**

- June 24, 2023, Noon-2, (2-3pm activity in the Gazebo)
- Spirits to Wes Point Park to Clark to Todd Field
- Picture scavenger hunt
- Flyers going out starting May 6 at the Outdoor Market

### **Cemetery Tour: Rick DeVan**

- Looking at September
- Still looking at a theme: possibly Inventors, Builders and Engineers to coordinate with Garrett Morgan activities.
- Possibly military theme to coordinate with Wreaths Across America.
- Also include Plains Rd Cemetery if possible.

### **Wreath's Across America: Bill Henrich**

- December 16, 2023- program and wreath laying at both cemeteries
- Time and details to be determined
- Will need volunteers at both cemeteries
- Ceremonies occur at same time across America

- Both North and South Willoughby cemeteries
- Action Rick: Get a list of forgotten soldiers from the cemeteries
- Purchase wreaths through our specific sites; Please share these sites!
- Willoughby Village Cemetery (aka Chagrin Burying Ground) Sharpe Ave
- <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/175176/Overview/?relatedId=150000>
- Willoughby Memorial Garden (aka Plains Rd. Cemetery Lakeshore blvd
- <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/175177/Overview/?relatedId=0>

#### **Clock Tower Project: Steve Rae**

- March 7: Visual inspection was done
- Findings will be presented to the owner on March 20
- Once OK from owner received, fundraising will begin
- Looking for additional fundraising ideas
- Price tag currently unknown but at least \$100-125k
- Doors, “gingerbread” around the front door are gone; looking for old windows

#### **Garrett Morgan Light Restoration and Plaque: Rick DeVan, Bill Henrich**

- Working with Heart of Willoughby on bringing the family in to Last Stop Willoughby parade

#### **Historic DTW Plaques: Pat Lewis, Maureen Gregory**

- Written report given

#### **New business**

##### **First Responders Memorial: Rick DeVan**

- Will reach out to other organizations for collaboration.

##### **Van Gorder Manor Talk with the grandchildren: Mark Dutton, Mike Neundorfer**

- Carriage house to be included in next tour

## Grants: Molly Smith

- Working on grants

## New Business

- Walking tour collaboration with the Willoughby Arts Collaborative, Bill
- Addition of a bike/golf cart tour
- Welcome Center fundraiser, Bill
- Work with HOW, WHS maybe more for a fundraiser for the Welcome Center, Tentatively April 2024
- Date the Postmaster put up sign for Willoughby April 20, 1835
- Historic Ball? Contact Bill to be on the committee

## Other

- Artwork found in historic house that is now the condos next to the Welcome Center Contact Lori Diemer if you have any information on the art.

## For Your Reading Pleasure

- Some information on the Penfield Home
- <https://www.penfieldhouse.com/riverrock/the-last-building-site>
- <https://www.penfieldhouse.com/about/about>
- <https://www.freshwatercleveland.com/breaking-ground/MasterworksWright031121.aspx>

Respectfully submitted,  
Deb Mullen