

Hamilton County Historical Society
March 2023 Board Meeting
Tuesday March 7th, 2023, 7:00PM
Hamilton County Museum and Sheriffs Residence
810 Conner Street
Noblesville, IN 46060

Members:

Diane Nevitt* Museum Director
David Heighway Hamilton County Historian

Jessica Layman President
Katherine Murray Vice President
Vernon Young Treasurer
Sandra Lynch Secretary

Dan Dunham Member*
Brian Glover Member*
Nancy Massey Member
Sharon McMahan Member
Janet Phillips Member
Stan Renner Member
Dale Unger Member*
Dottie Young Member

*Indicates member was absent

Quorum is present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Jessica Layman

Secretary's Report – Sandra Lynch

Minutes of the previous minutes had been sent out to all Board Members. No changes have been requested to the minutes. The motion to accept the minutes was made by David Heighway and seconded by Stanton Renner.

Treasurers Report – Vernon Young

Key Bank Checking Account Balance as of 03/02/2023	\$6,713.71
Stifel Investments	
Investment account balance	\$155,817.04
Money Market Checking	\$10,868.47

Vernon Young will not be here for the April meeting, no treasurer's report will be given. Vernon asked for someone to help check the post office box and post a couple of checks during his absence. Vice President Kate Murray offered to do this. Motion to accept Treasurers Report was made by David Heighway and seconded by Stanton Renner.

Museum Directors Report

Diane Nevitt was absent this month, and sent the following report. She had a very large number of visitors for the month of February. Over ninety visitors came in. Diane is working on getting the gift shop updated. She has been going over inventory and pricing. Nancy Massey ordered and brought in 25 copies of her book, 'Images of Noblesville ' for us to sell in the gift shop. Vernon Young brought in a sample of a tshirt from a Historical Society that he has visited. Some members wanted to be sure he had both male and female tshirts. We may also consider getting some shirts themed for the younger crowd that like to visit our museum.

Hamilton County Historians Report – David Heighway

As the City of Noblesville celebrates its 200th birthday, the Noblesville Bicentennial Committee has partnered with Hamilton County Historian David Heighway to share information about our community. Each month, new "Noblesville Trailblazers" – individuals and groups that made an impact to our history - will be highlighted.

January

Salmon Oliver "Sol" Levinson (1865-1941) Levinson was famous nationally for his work in the concept of outlawing war. He had written most of the text of the document known as the Kellogg-Briand Pact or Pact of Paris. For this, he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1929.

Pete Smith - Smith was a Black man and was the first non-Native American to live in the Noblesville area. It was through his efforts that the first white settlers were able to survive.

February

C. Murphy White (1923-2011) who was the first Black member of the City Council. He was elected in 1968, a time when African American were still struggling to vote in many places.

Charles 'Charlie' Jones - He became an auxiliary policeman for two years and was appointed to the Noblesville Police Department in December of 1970.

<https://www.cityofnoblesville.org/topic/subtopic.php?topicid=643&structureid=1>

David is also working on several projects for the Bicentennial that can be found on the library's site. Transportation project, Black History Month, Armstrong Patent [latch]

We will be keeping you updated with **David Heighway's blog**. Many interesting topics on this blog. Transportation markers, A mysterious murder, The Hamilton County School of Illustration

<https://blog.history.in.gov/author/david/>

Presidents Report – Jessica Layman

Hamilton County Bicentennial Upcoming Events

March 25th – First Farmers program at Koteewi Park 1:00 to 4:00

April is Jackson Township

April 1st Annual Fish Fry – White River Township 4:00 – 7:30 There will also be a Walnut Grove alumni meeting at this time.

Nickel Plate Express - Hamilton County Bicentennial History Express

April 15th, 10 AM – Board at Hobbs Station in Forest Park Cost is \$20.00

During this 2 1/2-hour event, passengers will enjoy a scenic ride on the historic Nickel Plate Road while learning about the history of the town stations in Cicero, Arcadia, Atlanta and Noblesville. Starting from Hobbs Station in Noblesville's Forest Park, travel North as you listen to and read about the history of the towns and landscapes you pass through. Once in Atlanta, disembark for a break and refreshments. Passengers will have the option to add on a boxed meal when they purchase their train tickets to enjoy during the break. Then, travel back to Hobbs Station for a round-trip experience.

Hamilton County Turns 200 – High School Ambassadors.

Jessica Layman and David Heighway took the ambassadors on a Hamilton County tour over the weekend. A very impressive group of high school students who were eager to learn about history throughout our county and to be a part of this Bicentennial Celebration.

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Outdoor Exhibit

Abby has been working on the static panel. Jessica sent out samples to all of us to look at. It shows a link about how people are connected in unexpected ways in history. This is keeping in line with the guidelines for the American Association for State and Local History. We will be able to use this display for the United States 250th birthday celebration in 2026.

July 22nd – Bicentennial Event

Past Politics on the Square and Ice Cream Social

All of the speakers for the event are booked. We will not be able to have a train for Teddy Roosevelt to speak from, it needs some engine work. We will be meeting with Kate Baker of Noblesville Main Street to discuss what needs to be done as far as permits from the city and county, etc. Kate will give us a schedule of how the day will go. We will have ten to fifteen minutes between each of the speakers so that the crowd can move. Discussion is still ongoing – we may have our speakers take the front and center stage instead of speaking close to the Museum and the Historic Courthouse.

Sandra has been working on the ice cream social. She has reached out to the Hamilton County Extension Homemakers to see if they could recreate a smaller version of our historic Centennial birthday cake. They love the idea but are discussing it. The date is also the Saturday of the Hamilton County 4H Fair, and that is a very busy time of year for them. Dottie Young suggested that we reach out to Taylor Bakery too, to see if they could recreate a smaller version of the Centennial cake if the Purdue extension team does not have time for it. Sandra is working on a sponsor for the tent, tables, chairs, ice cream, and cake portion of the day. The tent will have to be cleared by appearing at a Hamilton County Commissioners meeting and also by calling 811 before the event, to check for utilities around the

courthouse square. All these will also be discussed when we present to the Hamilton County Commissioners before the event.

Old Business –

Catalog it software, will be tabled until after our July event. This software is not an urgent need. This was tabled until after our Bicentennial events are over.

Heating – Vernon Young reached out to the staff of Indiana Landmarks to discuss with them the heating options given to us by the Hamilton County Maintenance staff. The staff prefers to place units in the walls, cutting into the exterior. Being on the National Register of Historic Places, we feel that baseboard heating would mimic the steam registers that were in place in this building over the years.

Logo – we are looking for a couple of different looks for the new logo. The ones she has sent us look great, but we are also searching for one that has less detail than the none she has proposed. This will be tabled until after our Bicentennial Events are over.

New Business:

Water leaking from the roof has done some damage to some of the women's cells up on the third floor of the jail. As best we can tell, it is on the flat roof in the jail area. The maintenance team from Hamilton County came over as soon as we made them aware of the leak. There is some long term damage to the plaster walls in two of the cells. After the roof is repaired, we will look into what it will take to fix the walls. The water damage did not reach any of the graffiti in the cells. We also want to look at the last time the slate roof was installed and if they will be doing any repairs to the slate tiles, or just the mansard roof in the rear of the building.

Sheridan Historical Society

They have requested a tour of our museum. Stanton Renner and Vernon Young will lead the tour on March 8th and update us next month.

Transportation Marker Program

This is a great opportunity for our county. Historical markers will be used to mark them as well as creating an online map for these routes. We will be hosting the map out the Hamilton County Historical Society website. So far about 75 signs have been created.

We will be able to track how much movement this gets on our website. After twelve months, there may be some cost incurred on our site. It is a pilot project. We may get help from the cities and other historical societies. Motion made to accept this project made by Dottie Young and seconded by Sharon McMahan.

Sign up for Saturdays at the Museum

Please sign up for a Saturday or two to assist with tours at the Museum.

Plaque for donors on the entry wall . There are only three spaces left. We will need to look at getting a new plaque soon. We will use Logan Street signs and Banners for this.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM

Motion made by Stanton Renner and seconded by David Heighway

Respectfully submitted by:

Sandy Lynch

Secretary

Next Meeting will be:

Tuesday April 4th, 2023

7:00 PM

Hamilton County Historical Society

810 Conner Street