

*Presto Preservation Association*  
Board of Directors Zoom Meeting  
Minutes  
February 26, 2022

Attendees: Kathy Christiansen, Megan Arnold, Becky Davis, Rick Just, Emma Just, Debbie Reid-Oleson, Roy Fuller, Joel Just, Wendy Pratt, Leslie Dolenar, Bob Reid, and Ginger Reid  
Absent: Jared Reid, Seth Pratt and Betsy Just

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF DIRECTOR: Leslie Dolenar was nominated by Joel Just and elected to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors. Leslie also agreed to serve as Board Recording Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meetings of July 10, 2022, August 15, 2021, and August 24, 2021, were reviewed and approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Account balances as of February 17, 2022, were as follows:

General Account:	\$15,763.08
House Restoration Account:	\$6,856.51
PayPal:	\$76.44

The following donations to the *House Restoration Account* have been received:

1. Mary Ellen Ariana (\$5,000)
2. Anonymous (\$2,000)
3. Julie Mattson-Brown/Kathy Christiansen (\$1,000)

Wendy will e-mail financial reports (8/1/2021—2/17/22) to Board members. Discussion ensued regarding questions posed by Debbie regarding account balances; clarification was provided.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Presto Press: Rick will include information from Jack Connelly's article on the Timber Culture Act in the next edition, as well as reunion details.
- Membership Committee: Discussion ensued regarding follow-up to remind members if their dues have not been paid. Emma will e-mail membership listings to Board members, who will follow-up to remind family members to pay membership dues.
- Fund-Raising Plan: Board members reviewed a *Fund-Raising Plan* that is required in the *Association's Guiding Statements*. Kathy will modify the Statements to replace a *Fund-Raising Plan* requirement with appointment of a Fund-Raising Committee and send out to Board members for review and/or approval. If the revision is approved, Ginger and Leslie will co-chair the Committee. Options for seeking recurring monthly or annual donations were presented; Rick and Wendy will follow-up. In the next issue of the *Presto Press*, Rick will include information about how the *Association* collects funds and how donations, including bequests, can be made. It was agreed that the Board needs to increase communication with *Association* members regarding dues, donations, bequests, etc.; Rick and Leslie will follow-up. Board members agreed that funds received from formalized fund-raising activities will be deposited in the *House Restoration Account*.
- A grant request to the Idaho Humanities Council may be considered in the future.

- Just-Reid for Home Cooking Cookbook: Roy has completed conversion of the original computerized document, and Rick announced that printing costs will be approximately \$12 per copy with a minimum order of 100. Tabled until next meeting.

#### NELS AND EMMA JUST HOUSE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION:

- Kathy announced that *Abstract Masonry Restoration* has scheduled the next phase of brick/mortar restoration at the Just House to begin in late May/early June.
- Rick announced that the *Idaho Heritage Trust* has approved a \$7,500 matching grant for the next phase of brick/mortar restoration.
- Tell-a-Story: Becky will continue to update a binder with photos and descriptions of restoration projects to have available for visitors to the house. Seth Pratt has added restoration photos to the *Association* website. Rick and Becky will add captions to the photos.
- Window Restoration:
  - Becky provided a status report on window restoration completed by Ken Davis and noted that additional work will be completed as the weather improves.
  - Debbie announced that Johnson Brothers will replace the pane muntins (grilles) on the “Charlie Just” window this Spring and process a refund of \$236.76, which was an overpayment for the “Elsie Johnson” window.
  - After the meeting, and for the agenda of the next meeting, Debbie indicated that she will follow-up on her previous proposal to install a storm window on one of the new windows and provide a sample from Johnson Brothers.
  - Debbie presented proposals for the South attic window (formerly a door) and metal exterior frames on two other attic windows, which would likely need to be installed before completion of exterior brick/mortar restoration. After discussion, it was agreed that no further action will be taken until Rick has an opportunity to look at the windows and review options.
- Walkway to House: Ginger and Becky coordinated installation of a micro-perma-bark walkway from the picket-fence gate to the front porch of the house. The walkway was installed in memory of James Just Mattson and June Shoell Mattson.
- Window Blinds: Debbie has procured temporary paper window blinds, which she will install on two windows. After all restoration work is completed, she plans to propose that permanent blinds be installed on designated windows.
- Plaster Restoration (Interior): Kathy will schedule a visit to the house by a historic plaster restoration company to look at options for restoring interior plaster.
- Windmill Blades: Ginger announced that Jared Reid has not been able to find any identifying information on the blades. Rick will post a request for blades on several Idaho history pages.
- Brick/Mortar Sealant: Discussion ensued regarding Historic Architect Fred Walters’ recommendation that a sealant not be applied to the restored bricks/mortar versus the recommendation of *Abstract Masonry Restoration Company* to apply a water repellent. Becky will follow-up with Fred Walters and recommend that he speak to Casey Sullivan of *Abstract Masonry*.
- Log Shop: Becky announced that grass has been planted around the Shop at its new location and that chinking will not be installed on the Shop at this time. Debbie noted that all reunion supplies are stored and covered in the Shop to prevent damage from inclement weather.
- Porch/Deck: Becky and Debbie applied sealant to the new porch deck. Woodpeckers have returned to the porch and may cause damage to restored bricks/mortar. Rick will send information to Becky about a “squirrel chaser” that may discourage the woodpeckers.

- Picket Fence: Ginger and Debbie noted that the fence is not stable and some sections have been removed due to instability. Ginger and Debbie will obtain an estimate to stabilize the fence and forward to the Board to schedule repairs next Fall.
- Walkways/Signage Around House: Tabled.
- Cemetery Maintenance: The Mattson siblings will perform any needed maintenance at the Cemetery this Summer.
- Roof Repairs: Tabled.
- Restroom Facilities:
  - Becky announced that a Porta-Potty can be rented for \$90/month with a \$45 set-up fee. These charges include weekly maintenance by A-1 Rental.
  - Debbie proposed an option for a lined cement tank with a wooden outhouse and periodic tank clean-out. The following were presented: need for handicap access; renting a Porta-Potty for scheduled tours; ensuring that groundwater contamination does not occur; and incinerating or composting toilets. Debbie and Becky will review options and submit a proposal by March 26, 2022.
- Public/Private Tours: Follow-up was discussed regarding scheduling and announcing public tour dates; restroom facilities; seeking volunteers to conduct tours; and protocol for private tours. Becky announced that a group from the *Daughters of the Utah Pioneers* has requested a tour in early May. Approval was given for Becky to rent a Porta-Potty for the tour with the possibility of leaving the Porta-Potty on-site for brick/mortar restoration workers. Leslie volunteered to assist with tours when she is available.

#### REUNION (August 13, 2022):

- Ginger announced that the *7N Ranch* may be available for the reunion at a rental fee of \$500 and presented facilities and activities that are available, which may attract younger family members to attend the reunion. Bob proposed that the reunion be held at North Bingham County Park in Shelley. Debbie made a motion to hold the reunion at *7N Ranch* if it is available; motion seconded by Joel and approved. For a back-up plan, Kathy will contact the North Bingham County Park to ascertain whether the facility is available on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Ginger proposed renting RV sites (without restroom facilities) at the Just Homestead as a fund-raising activity.
- After a venue is approved by the Board, another meeting will be scheduled to plan the reunion.

#### BOARD ACTIONS/INFORMATION:

None.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Rick reviewed the *Lost Apple Project*, which involves DNA testing. A motion was made and approved to allocate \$150 from the *General Fund* for DNA testing of an apple tree at the Just Homestead.
- Rick proposed an expenditure of up to \$500 to hire experts to conduct historical research of George Waldron Bennett. Leslie moved that an expenditure from the *General Account* be approved; motion seconded and approved.
- Ginger inquired about access to *Ancestry.com*. Rick can grant access to any family member who provides his/her e-mail address.

NEXT MEETING: To be announced.

ADJOURNMENT

Submitted by,  
Kathy (Mattson) Christiansen