

AIHS 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes, November 11, 2023

The Annual Meeting was called to order at 7pm on 11/12/22 by Bob Bedoll.

Present were: Bob Bedoll (president), Carol Pascal (vice president), Dave Durrett (secretary), Penne Wilson (Public Information), Wendy Lessard (Events), Rick Anderson (Archives), Leslie Lamb and Virginia Cummings (gift shop), Ed Stephenson (past president). Peggy Hodge (Education) Absent: Tod Billett

Bob verified that a quorum was present.

Minutes for the 2022 meeting were approved.

Bob Bedoll, President:

- We have a great team and great facilities.
Our facilities have become a focal point for the community.
- Events/Classes: Almost 300 classes and events this year, including 220 recurring classes/events, plus almost 100 unique events, including 7 concerts, 2 weddings, 2 showers, memorial, film festival. (in conjunction with Island Arts)
- Community/Fundraising Events: Plant Sale, Farm Day, Garden Market, Salmon Bake, Apple Squeeze, raised over \$38K, a new record.
- Salmon Bake Meals: served over 800 salmon & rib meals, the most ever.
- Silent Auction: raised \$15,831, the most ever.
- Membership: 248 members (268 last year).
- Financial: Over \$200K in reserve (including funds earmarked for the bandstand roof).
- Facilities: upgraded the farm buildings, grounds, greenhouse, annex, bandstand, archival bldg., gardens, gift shop, reader board.
- Displays: upgraded our displays and collections.
- Visitor Engagement: We keep the gift shop open every weekend from April, farmhouse and archival building open and staffed every weekend this summer. Almost 1000 visitors

2023 Goals

- Continue our tradition of great community events.
- Move us in the direction of the 2025 Vision
- Enhance the content and usefulness of the farm and all the museum buildings.
- Add a roof to the bandstand.
- Maintain fiscal health
- Find a successor

Bandstand Roof Project

- Extend the bandstand season into spring and fall.
- Provide greater certainty for concerts.
- Provide protection for musicians, instruments, and electronics.
- Provide a covered picnic shelter for events (Salmon Bake, ...)

- Provide a covered outdoor venue for parties, weddings, plays, etc.
- Last for 50 years
- Budget: \$30,000. Covered by donation.

Status:

- Engineered Plans are complete.
- Permitting process started.
- To be built by AIHS volunteers
- Construction to be complete by May, 2024.

Todd Billett: 2023 Financial report:

Total Gross Income: 71,578.

Total Operating Expenses: 43,449.

Net Operating Income: 28,309

Capital Expenses: 13,337

Net Income: -14,981

Balance Sheet Checking and Savings: 201,927.

The 2023 budget was presented:

Total Gross Income: 71,700

Total Operating Expenses: 67,030

Net Operating Income: 4,670

Capital Expenses: 46,300

2023 Capital Budget:

Pallet Racks: 1,200

Composting Station: 2,000

Bandstand Roof: 30,000

Cold Room Compressor: 4,000

Well Pump Backup: 2,000

Security System Upgrade: 3,000

Arch Bldg Sound/Video: 3,600

Heat Pump Coop 2: 2,500

Total: 46,300

Carol Paschal, Vice President:

- **Insurance – our single biggest expense (>\$10,000)**
- **2024 Budget**
- **2022 Tax return**
- **Garden Chairman**

- Greenhouse: Val Oppenheim
- Garden Market: Maureen Takaoka , Larry Gramling
- Market garden to supply the market: Sue Salo
- 40 Community Gardens; 4 Garden Coordinators:
Kathy Gadbois, Laurie Opsal, Larry Gramling, Jimmy Ng
- Ornamental Landscaping: Laurie Opsal, Jane Groppenberger, Jeanne McGoldrick
- **2024:**
 - More use of the Greenhouse. More Classes and talks.
 - 6-hour volunteer requirement for gardeners in 2024

Leslie Lamb, Virginia Cummings: Gift Shop:

2023 Accomplishments

- New lighting installed in gift shop area
- Reader board on Nelson's Corner straightened up
- Phonebook completed by first week of May
- New POS system installed
- Hired a bookkeeper
- One of the best years financially

2024 Goals

- New alarm system to replace the 25+ year old one.
- Four new consignors, always on the lookout for others
- Already started on the phonebook. Target completion April 1
- Reroof our reader board
- Paint the windows of shop to brighten up the 'curb-side' appeal
- Attend Anchorage Gift Show. Possibly one other .
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Ed Stephenson, Part president and Archival Building Manager.

- Continued maintenance of the seven year old building
- Hosted almost 250 scheduled meetings, events and services
- Relocated stage speakers and screen for more accessible program viewing
- Added repeater speakers half-way back on the ceiling for better sound in back
- Added two stage speakers for better sound in front of the hall
- Added sound deadening drapes at back of the hall to dampen reflected sound
- Added more storage shelving for the janitor.
- Built a 100 sq ft storage room inside the Annex for AB overflow stuff.
- Added removable drapes in the restroom entry to suppress sound during events.
- Installed motion sensor lighting for the store display case in the hall and the library

2024 Goals

- Add repeater monitors on the walls of the AB for supplemental viewing of presentations and movies by audience in rear half of the hall

- Add a hood over the stove in the office/kitchen area
- Continue routine maintenance and repair of the building

Community Service and Events – Bob Bedoll (acting)

- Our community & fund-raising events:
Plant Sales, Farm Day, Salmon Bake, Apple Squeeze
Garden market, raised over \$35,000.
 - Salmon Bake served over 800 meals
 - The Silent Action raised over \$15,800.
Thanks Jill Aschendorf, Eillen Laskowski
- The Farm and Archival Building hosted almost 300 classes and events.
 - 8 Concerts with AIA and Island Arts
 - AI Film Festival, Winter Art Show (with Island Arts)
 - 84 Monthly meetings, 150 weekly activities
 - 2 weddings, 2 showers, and several private events
 - 10 workshops and classes
- 235 reservations in our online res. system for 2022/23.
- 2024 Goals – Keep up the good work.

Penne Wilson, Public Information:

- Demand for publications and information increases as events become more successful and popular
- Photo Contest
- Musical Concerts
- Writing Workshop and monthly art classes
- Community Memorials, weddings, anniversary events
- Juneteenth
- Potlucks and Presentations
- Film Festival
- Holiday Open House
- Traditional AIHS events: Farm Day, Plant Sales, Garden Market, Salmon and Rib Bake and Silent Auction, Apple Squeeze
- Gift Shop and Museum Hours

Multiple uses of Advertisement

- Use of message board at Yoman, in front of farm, and the General Store
- Sounder
- Facebook (AIHS, Campfire, and Community pages)
- Historical Society Web Page

- Fliers at General Store and Farm Bulletin Boards
- Sandwich boards at General Store and Yoman
- Increased use of signage at farm and existing signs labeled/organized.
- Signs on road from ferry landing and at the landing
- Enlarged phone book on sale at the general store and gift shop.

Wayne Wallace, Operations and Facilities:

- Rebuilt road on south side of Orchard.
- We took down the Welcome sign to rebuild it.
- The Garden Shed was built.
- We finished construction of the woodshop.
- Stairs up to and safety railing around Woodshop upper storage.
- Enlarged stage.
- Wired Annex.
- Rabbit fence installed – Thanks Jimmy and Laurie!
- Repaired toilet in Commons men's bathroom – Thank You Jerry!
- Pallet racks should be installed by year end.
- Maintenance on mowers and tractors.
- Replacement of several posts around Gardens.
- General maintenance and mowing.

Set up/take down of tents and tables for various Farm events

GOALS for 2023

- Widen sidewalk between gardens.
- Repair and hang Welcome sign.
- Filter in well water line.
- Erect 'No Smoking' signs.
- Timbor Barn.
- New Garden gates,
- Stage roof.
- Rebuild road between Gardens and Barn.
- Heat pump for Lois Scholl room (Coop 2).
- Replenish Farm supply of woodchips.
- No work-party on Nov 22.
- Our last Work Party of this year will be December 13.
- We will start the 2023 Work Parties on January 3.
- Thank-You again to all Work Party volunteers.

Rick Anderson, Archives Director:

- **McGoldrick Library:** added pictures and sculpture
- **Stephenson Hall:** Added Lois Scholl poster, 1915 Maps of AI and McNeil

- **Farmhouse:** Curated by Mary Rabe
- **Tahoma Pilot House:** Restoration by Lee Ann Whitaker
- **Coop2:** Domestic Displays added to by Melissa Anderson
- **Brickyard:** Research by Karen Carter-Schwendler
- **Hazel Heckman Project:** 10 short stories and 167 letters scanned and online.
Book *Blackjack Country* is being edited.
- **Peter Puget reenactment:** Oro Bay in May.
- **Antique Apple Project:** DNA testing showed 3 antique varieties on AI. 12 more submitted.
- **Acquisitions:** Roger Russell cradle, antique clothes-drying rack, antique bumper jack, 10 tapes of interviews conducted by Angie Wood in 2000.

GOALS FOR 2024

- New Signs: Farm implements.
- Edit and Publish: *Blackjack Country*
- Develop Contacts: with Nisqually and Steilacoom Tribes
- Old Brickyard: potential archaeological dig
- New Signage: for Dick Throm's display cases
- Farmhouse, Coop 2: Continue work

Peggy Hodge, Education Report (Presented by Maureen Harlow)

Docents:

- **Total docents 2023** – 26
- **Docent meetings** – 2
- **Trainings** – Spring – 2 (4 new docents)
- **Farmhouse and Archival Bldg.** hours/weekend – In person and On Call
- **Volunteer hours** – 460 hours Apr.- Nov.
- **Tools to connect kids to history** – Farm Scavenger Hunt (Ted/Kathy N.)
 - “I Spy” Farmhouse game – (Lee Ann W.)
- **April to October visitors** – 967
- **Most visitors in one month** – August -291
- **Field trips** – 2 – AI Elem Fall/Spring + 2 Adult groups
- **Farmhouse curator** – Mary Rabe –
thanks to Karen Stephens and Linda Simonsen
- **Spring Docent Training** - AIHS website/ “Docent” tab/ Docent info
- **AIHS Library**

Potlucks and Programs – 2022

- January – Bats of the Pacific NW (on video)
- February – Mushrooming on Anderson island (on video)
- March – Wildlife Expeditions - USA
- April - Maritime WA National Heritage Area Preservation
- September – Remembering Medicine Creek

- October – Island Water Supply
- January '24 – Native Plants

2023 Goals

- Continue to recruit, train, and schedule docents for the Johnson Farm.
- Provide docents for visitors, visitor groups, field trips, and AIHS events.
- Open buildings on weekends and events, as security & interest allows.
- Continue to edit the Docent Handbook, adding historical info.
- Revisit the Johnson Farm signage plan; install and maintain.
- Locate and invite qualified, engaging, and appropriate speakers for monthly potlucks.
- Keep information flowing to the AIHS website, Sounder, AI app, Docent Team, & tours.
- Maintain AIHS library collection.

Thank You to Departing Board Members

- **Wayne Wallace** 3 years Secretary, 7 years Operations Chairman
- **Peggy Hodge** 7 years Education Chairman
- **Penne Wilson** 4 years Public Information
- **Dave Durrett** 2 years Secretary

New Business: Election of Officers and Directors

- President: Bob Bedoll, 1 year remaining.
- Vice-President: Carol Paschal, 1 year remaining.
- **Secretary:** (Dave Durrett), **New 2 year term: The board nominates Sally Buchanan**
- **Treasurer:** (Todd Billett). **New 2 year term: The board nominates Todd Billett**
- **Operations Director:** (Wayne Wallace). **Remaining 3 years: The board nominates Jim Battishill**
- **Public Information Director:** (Penne Wilson). **New 4 year term: The board nominates Jon Fields**
- **Education Director:** (Peggy Hodge). **Remaining year: The board nominates Lee Ann Whitaker**
- Events Director: Wendy Lessard, 2 years remaining.
- Archives Director: Rick Anderson, 1 year remaining.
- Past President: Ed Stephenson, 1 year remaining.

A vote of the membership was taken. All officers and directors were elected unanimously.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15pm.

President's Award. The President's Award for 2022 was given to Leslie Lamb and Virginia Cummings for years of expertly running the gift shop.

Minutes submitted 11/7/2024 by Bob Bedoll.