

Town of Richlands
Section House Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2026

Attendance: Lynna Mitchell (chair), Greg Horn, Rod Cury, Sandra Culler, Eleanor Armes, Brad Lawson, Zadin Lawson, Donna Altizer, Corey Whited

I. Call to order

The meeting convened at 5:20pm.

II. Minutes

The minutes of the January 2026 meeting are not yet available.

III. Financial report

Lynna provided a detailed breakdown of recent expenditures, including those for the Mt. Vernon event and Christmas tree lighting. As of 1/14/26, our balance was \$5,760.64.

IV. Update on water damage

Unfortunately, the house sustained major water damage because of a pipe that burst last week and was discovered on Friday, 2/6. Apparently, during the extreme cold last week, the heat pump failed, causing the water pipes to freeze and burst. Several inches of water covered the floors, causing the flooring in much of the house to have to be removed. The outside bathrooms also sustained damage.

Town crews and volunteers came to the house Saturday morning and removed all the contents, which were then stored in the PD's boat house. Luckily, the property's insurance should cover the damage, but the house may be closed for months.

Rod shared that Mr. Marr, the town's interim manager, said that due to the emergency status of the damage, the town will not have to solicit RFP's to find a restoration company; instead, the town can immediately arrange a contractor of its choosing.

V. Town crew appreciation luncheon

Lynna announced that we have decided to provide a catered luncheon for the town crew to show our appreciation for their work responding to the water damage. The lunch will be presented on Wednesday, 2/25 at the town hall and will be catered by Your Grate Escape. The menu will include chicken casserole, tossed salad, roasted potatoes, macaroni and cheese, and peach cobbler.

Eleanor, Sandra, Donna, and Zadin agreed to help with picking up the luncheon food from the caterer and setting up the meal at town hall.

VI. Possible events

Lynna announced that the James Monroe event and 4th of July celebration are still in the works, but planning will be suspended until we know when the house can be opened again.

VII. Section House Heritage Society

Lynna presented possible approaches to organizing a Section House support group for consideration. There could either be a membership model with dues and/or a tiered contribution structure with corresponding fees and benefits or a “friends” group much like the town library has with volunteers to organize advocacy and fundraising activities. We will continue to consider each option.

VIII. Other business

Rod announced that he has looked into spring flowers with Kim’s and was advised that around the first of March will be the best time to order.

Donna announced that the Richlands Garden Club has purchased an artificial Christmas tree for the house. It was suggested that a thank-you card be sent to the club. Donna also suggested that organizing the heritage society would also be a good time to file for 501(c)3 status.

Corey announced that he is compiling archives to document the Board’s history since the house’s restoration. He requested that anyone who has materials they would like to see included pass them on to him.

Next Meeting Date—Monday, 3/16/26 at 5:00pm (location TBA)

Adjournment—The meeting adjourned at 6:40pm.

Minutes prepared by Greg Horn
February 26, 2026