

Sibley County Historical Society
700 Main Street
Henderson, MN 56044
Meeting Minutes
Thursday September 22, 2022
Meeting held at the Winthrop Museum

The meeting was called to order by President Joy Cohrs at 5:10 pm.

Attending: Diane Fredin, Joy Cohrs, Becky Briggs, Holly Harjes, Shirley Black
Guests: Judy Loewe, Arlene Busse, Marie Main, Sharon Haggemiller

Agenda: Approve/deny September agenda. Holly Harjas made a motion to approve the agenda, Shirley Black seconded the motion. Passed.

Minutes: Approve/deny August 2022 minutes. Becky Briggs made a motion to approve the August minutes. Diane Fredin seconded the motion. Passed.

Treasurer Report: Approve/deny September Treasurer Report. Treasurer report was reviewed via the documents that Tom had emailed the Board. Shirley Black made a motion to approve the September Treasurer report, while Holly Harjas seconded the motion. Passed.

Old Business

Programs- Judy Loewe was present and reviewed the October program. Guest speaker, Stephen Osman, will present his program on the Dakota War. He recently spoke in New Ulm/Brown County for the anniversary of the Dakota War.

The October SCHS meeting will be held at the Library in Gaylord, on Thursday October 27th at 5:00 pm. Mr. Osman's presentation will follow at 6:30 pm.

Board members are encouraged to bring a sack lunch.

A couple of details: 1.) Shirley/Judy will work on sending out an email to SCHS members. 2.) Holly/Judy will work on making an insert to go into this upcoming newsletter mailing.

SCHS Newsletter- Thanks to all who helped! Good job to those involved. Diane had the newsletters for us to review. Diane is waiting on the labels and then the newsletter will be mailed. The next newsletter topics will be discussed at the October meeting.

Porch painting- is in progress – There were some steps that were bad and had to be replaced or sanded down. Joy reviewed the color that was chosen (light gray). The steps will now match the other parts of the front porch.

Roof update – Joy is still looking into the options. She spoke with the MN Historical Society – who suggested getting bids for both a slate and a metal roof. Joy also spoke with the Brown County Museum in New Ulm, who just had their slate roof worked on. Brown County gave Joy the name of their roofer. Joy will contact them and continue to gather information on roof possibilities and costs.

Outside sign-update- Joy: Joy has contacted a couple of sign companies. The First one was not interested. The second one provided 4 examples of signs in two different sizes. These examples were passed around to those in attendance. The company is from Hutchinson and gave a quote of between \$15.50-\$18.50 per square foot (Estimated appx \$450).

Discussion included a double sided sign -vs- the two “v” shaped signs currently in place. The size was discussed – the two sizes quoted seemed small. The Discussion was table until next month when more board members will be present.

New Business:

Museum Passes/Membership Joy received a call from someone in Henderson who was putting together a basket – wanting a day pass to the museum to add to the basket. Joy did give them a mug. Holly made a motion to provide a Sunday afternoon (during museum hours) day pass. Shirley will make up a pass.

Fall cleanup Lowell Nagel, after the first frost, will decided on a clean-up date. Once Lowell determines a day, he will let us know and it is encouraged that Board Members attend to assist with the clean-up.

Leading Sibley Together – a county group of about 20 people (*Leading Sibley Together is a leadership training program that is developing leadership by connecting people, businesses, and communities to create a stronger future in Sibley County*) have requested to visit the museum on Thursday October 6th at 12:30 pm. Volunteers are needed. Arlene and Holly will be present. Mike Reinhardt – will be informed to keep the door open longer.

Note from Treasurer Tom on Membership: There are 228 members of the SCHS, about 45 are complimentary memberships and 18 are Lifetime members. This leaves 182 paid members. A brief discussion was held on the need to increase membership – especially the younger population. Arlene Busse did tell us that last week, there was a teenage boy who expressed interest in being a volunteer/tour guide at the museum.

Updates from Sharon Haggemiller: 1.) Log Cabin needs attention. There was a knot in the wood, which the birds have knocked out and have now made a nest inside the log cabin. It is noted that there are also wasps in the log cabin. This will be discussed at the October meeting. 2.) Placing some plants around the cabin. Lois a volunteer and a master gardener will take care of this. 3.) Trucks that were parking in the parking lot. The police did talk to them about parking elsewhere and it was noted that the trucks are no longer in the parking lot.

Handicap Signs: Discussion was held on handicap signs. It is unknown what happened to our signs. Two signs were decided on – one for the back door indicating the handicap entrance and one at the front steps (or maybe the start of the sidewalk) directing people to the handicap back door. Joy will check with the Sibley Co Highway department on signs.

WWII items: Arlene Busse encourages the Collections Committee to consider WWII items. In 20 years the 100th anniversary of the war will be upon us and it would be nice to have items for display. Along with this discussion included Decommission. It was mentioned that there are some boxes that have been decommissioned. Discussed was what to do with the items: The order will be: 1.) Return to Donor 2.) Offer to another museum 3.) Toss or sale the item.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm. Next meeting-5:00 pm October 27 at the Gaylord Library.

The Program for the Evening was a program on "Hats" and a tour of the Winthrop Museum given by Board Member Diane Fredin. The program was very intriguing. Diane will have the exhibit up until later in 2023. Diane provided us with a meal. Thank you so much Diane!

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Black, SCHS Secretary