

Sibley County Historical Society Board Meeting Minutes
700 Main Street
Henderson, MN 56044
Online "Zoom" Meeting
January 28, 2021 5:00 PM

President Jeff DuCharme called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm as an online Zoom Meeting. Board Members present were Jeff DuCharme, Eldrene Ebert, Vicki Stock, Tom Frauendienst, Mike Reinhardt, Joy Cohrs, Holly Harjes, Wendy Evenson and Shirley Black.

Visitors: Diane Frauendienst, Sharon Haggemeir, Ruth Ann Buck

Motion made by Joy, second by Eldrene to approve the January agenda. Passed.

Motion made by Mike, second by Vicki to accept the November/December Minutes. Passed.

Treasurer Update: People are sending in their membership dues. Annual dues are due in February.

Questions for the Treasurer:

- Question on who is doing the snow removal: Snow removal bills from 2020 were reviewed.
- Real Estate tax question: It was for a sewer assessment of \$177.33.
- Ancestry.com bill. \$199 is for a six-month subscription paid in November.
- MN Alliance Local History Museums. Discussion - \$25.00 bill for an all-volunteer group. Tom will bring it to Sharon to review prior to paying. Membership Expired on 12/31.

Motion made by Joy, second by Wendy to accept the December Treasurer's Report. Passed.

Treasurer Items:

- Lawn services offer from "Spring Touch" ... out of Gaylord, MN. Prepay option is \$358.00 for the entire year. Four treatments (fertilizer/crab grass is the first one, two broad leaf weed control treatments, and then a granular fertilizer treatment). Spring Touch did this last year.

Motion made by Vicki, second by Eldrene to approve going with the prepay service by Spring Touch.

- Plunkett's Pest control. \$908.96 for a year's service of General Pest Control. There was a discussion about the services offered. Jeff will contact Ursula and ask her to send an updated contract.
- Tom picked up the Fourth quarter quarterly from S&L Accounting in Arlington. Todd's W2 was sent out in the mail.
- Workmen's Comp audit, Tom took care of this yesterday online.
- From Mariah at S&L Accounting - she was wondering if we are going to have a new employee, because she did not want to close our account. Tom indicated he would get back to her. Question for the board, is if she should keep this open, or if we should suspend it for now. There will be a charge for Mariah for filing the quarterly report – even if there are no wages to report. Tom will find out the cost for S&L to keep this open and send out that information to the board.

Collection Committee Report:

Vicki spoke on behalf of the Collection Committee Report. The Committee met last Friday, January 22nd, with Mike, Vicki, and Wendy present. The Committee went through the items that were there. There was a table in the parlor with numerous items on it and a note that said these items are going to be used in an exhibit...please do not touch. The committee did not look at those items. It is understood that once that exhibit is done, then those items go back to the owners. Sharon indicated that she knew that.

The committee was in the museum for almost three hours, going through items. The committee reviewed Claudia's report focusing on the points she had on collections as their guide for reviewing the objects .. ie whether or not they should accept an item. These points included.

- What is the object?
- Does the donor have the right to gift the object?
- Is it being gifted to us without any restrictions?
- Is it directly related to Sibley County?
- Do we have other items similar or the same already in the collection?
- Is the object in good condition or does it need repair?

The Committee went through each object, spending time, looking at it and discussing it. The committee is recommending to the board for approval:

1. A wooden spice rack. Came from Gaylord.
2. Eye Glass Case from a doctor from Henderson.
3. Three stoneware products (1. Chicken water 2. Mason Jar 3. Canning item)
 - a. We do have quite a bit of pottery in the museum, but these were unique.
4. Clown costume from Joe Bertrang.
 - a. We have nothing like it.

The committee also noted that they looked at where the item would fit into the museum, collection wise and space wise.

Discussion – Wedding dress with associated marriage license and photo. It was rejected due to the number of dresses already in the collection.

Items brought forth for reconsideration by volunteer Sharon:

- Tea leaf china egg cup. Committee - in collection are items with the same pattern that match, and the large amount of china already in collection. Denied with regrets.
- Cookie press. Committee had nothing to indicate that it was related to Sibley County. They had no information on it and did not know the age of it. There is a hand-made wooden cookie press already in the collection.

Thank you to the committee for their time spend.

A motion was made by Joy to approve the items recommended by the Collections Committee to be brought into the museum. Second by Eldrene. Passed.

Mike indicated that for the items the Committee did not accept, they boxed them up and put them in the table in the lunchroom with notes on them to have them taken out of the museum. They should be removed as soon as possible so they do not get mixed up in the museum and to reduce clutter.

Vicki: There was a question on the slide projector donation. The committee felt that this should be brought to the board as it is equipment. They had a couple of findings:

1. There are slides in the collection, but to the committee's knowledge, the slides have not been looked at for quite some time.
2. Slide projectors may still be purchased for \$59-89.
3. Slides can be digitized.
4. Space is an issue.
5. Not sure if it still worked.

Discussion: There may be a slide projector in the attic. Sharon will check. This will be tabled until next month.

Fireproof Safe was discussed. There is a fireproof file cabinet. It contains the ledgers. It is totally full currently.

COVID Policy Discussion.

Volunteers stated their thoughts on changes to the COVID-19 policy. Points discussed were:

- 1.) Increased volunteers in the museum – leniency for volunteers is being asked by volunteers.
 - a. There have been more than the 3 volunteers currently working in the museum at the same time, despite the current policy limit of 3.
 - b. Volunteers would like more volunteers to work together, so they can bounce ideas off each other.

Much discussion around the COVID policy was held, both from volunteers and from the board. Safety was a discussed at length.

Discussion to modify the current COVID policy as follows:

1. No public in the museum
2. Extend the volunteer allowance in the museum at one time to 3-5 volunteers. No more than 5 volunteers.
3. Sharon will assist with monitoring masks and number of volunteers on Tuesday.
4. Volunteers are requested to adhere to the COVID policy.

Tom made the motion to modify the current COVID policy as above, Vicki Second. Passed by a vote of 5-3

Newsletter: Eldrene will help edit the newsletter with Diane.

Annual Meeting.

Discussion of the need to have an annual meeting this year and how it would look.

Zoom option was discussed. The current Zoom meeting license for the Museum allows 100 viewers at one time.

Elections are one of the items slated for the annual meeting.

These terms expire this year at the Annual Meeting (all will have completed their first term and will be eligible to run again).

1. Vicki Stock
2. Wendy Evenson
3. Mike Reinhardt

Other directors' terms (informational):

In 2022 the following terms expire:

1. Eldrene

2. Shirley
3. Jeff

In 2023 the following terms expire.

1. Joy
2. Holly

In the by-laws, the Annual meeting is to be held the last Sunday in April. This will be Sunday, April 25th.

Request for volunteers for open director positions will be posted on the website and put in the newsletter. Vicki and Mike are interested in running again for their board positions. Wendy will consider. Terms are for three years.

Membership list. If anybody has questions on subscriptions, please contact Treasurer Tom. All dues are due in February. Discussion around members who have not paid was held. A postcard could be sent out to members who are behind on their payments, to understand if they would like to continue their membership.

Suggestion from Holly to include a ½ sheet of paper in the newsletter of those that are behind on their membership. This would save on the costs and time of doing a postcard. This route will be pursued instead of the postcard option.

Follow-up from last month:

Director's pay from Tom (in follow-up of last months' meeting)

If we paid a director:

\$15/hour x 32 hours per week \$25,000 plus addition \$1,500 for taxes/social security – total cost would be \$26,500 for 1 year.

\$20/hour x 32 hours per week \$35,000 plus additional \$\$ for taxes/social security

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

Submitted by Shirley A. Black

SCHS Secretary