

Sibley County Historical Society
700 Main Street
Henderson, MN 56044

Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 29, 2023 – 5:30 p. m.

Attending: Joy Cohrs, Becky Briggs, Holly Harjes, Del Quast, Tom Frauendienst, Verne Schlueter, Mike Reinhardt, Diane Fredin

Guests: Sharon Haggemiller, Lei Amorim

The November 2023 meeting was called to order by President Joy Cohrs at 5:30 p. m.

Agenda: Approve/deny November 2023 agenda. After four (4) items were added to the agenda, Verne Schlueter made a motion to approve the agenda. Tom Frauendienst seconded the motion. Passed.

Minutes: Approve/deny October 2023 meeting minutes. After five (5) spelling corrections were noted, Mike Reinhardt made a motion to approve the minutes. Tom Frauendienst seconded the motion. Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Approve/deny November 2023 Treasurer's report. Treasurer's report and discussions:

- CTS charged us only \$1250.00 for tree and stump removal. The \$400.00 quoted for stump removal was gifted to us. Tom plus a helper cleaned up the area and added black dirt. Will re-seed in spring.
- There was miscommunication about the log cabin roof. Quote was for repairs, not replacement. We were quoted up to 12 sq. ft. of repair but needed 35 sq. ft. of repair. The difference was not charged. It was recommended the log cabin roof be replaced as part of the house roof project. Moss that has grown on the log cabin roof can/will be cleaned off next spring.
- Tom said the gutters on the addition should be left alone for now and addressed when the house roof is replaced. They have been cleaned as well as they can be.
- Tom suggested the ash trees that were removed be replaced with bare root trees in the spring.
- Orkin was unable to gain access to the inside when they were here for service on 11-14-2023. Tom will contact them to say we wish to pause service until spring, but will call if we notice any activity.
- Holly requested Susan Mathwig be reimbursed for expenses incurred: ladder for the attic, a cleaning machine for the wood floors, and LED lights for the basement. (Agenda item added by Holly Harjes.)
- Holly asked approval to again this year put battery-powered candles in the windows and purchase new batteries. Verne asked about projecting a moving light display on the house. It was decided we should continue to use the candles, as they are more appropriate. (Agenda item added by Holly Harjes.)
- Tom sought approval to pay \$35.00 to Minnesota Historical Society for SCHS's annual dues.

Tom Frauendienst made a motion to approve. Motion seconded by Becky Briggs. Passed.

Old Business:

Update on trees and log cabin: This was covered while discussing the Treasurer's report.

Collection policy: Collection Policy and workings of the Collection Committee were discussed. No decision.

Donation forms: How to update donation forms to clarify accession, de-accession, declining an item, and how to conclude a donation. (Agenda item added by Holly Harjes.)

Anniversary: Joy has had souvenir note pads printed. She asked about also ordering refrigerator magnets with the SCHS logo, address, phone #, etc. printed on them. 500 magnets cost about \$150.00. Joy felt any extras could be given away at the county fair, etc. There will be no charge for either of these items. Diane Fredin made a motion to approve this purchase. Holly Harjes seconded the motion. Passed.

Traxler Books: The cover for *A Murder in Faxon* needs tweaking. Diane will work to make it more pleasing.

New Business:

Collection policy: Joy again asked the board to think about our collection policy as it relates to newer items.

Evolution Shirts: Screen printing and embroidery business in Henderson. Verne asked about getting clothing items with the SCHS logo for the annual meeting/anniversary celebration. After discussion, it was decided we need more information before a decision can be made.

Give MN.org: It was announced that on "Give to the Max Day" SCHS received \$285.00 in donations. Those familiar with the process said SCHS needs to do nothing. We should get a check in the mail.

*****Using that as a segue.** Joy announced she received a letter from Charles Meyer stating he will be donating \$30,000.00 to SCHS in the near future, with \$10,000.00 of that earmarked for the genealogy department. Tom will let Joy know when the check is received, and she will send a thank-you note.

Map – Sibley County: The Sibley County Courthouse had a large, early map of the county rolled up in a tube. They had the map professionally flattened, but the cost to conserve/preserve it was prohibitive. The county will keep a copy made of the map, and will give us the original if we will store it. Location to store the map is to be determined. Mike Reinhardt made a motion to accept the map. Becky Briggs seconded the motion. Passed.

Other: Sharon Haggemiller said the Henderson Chamber of Commerce is requesting cash donations for their Holiday treat bag distribution. After some discussion, it was decided SCHS should give them a check for \$50.00. Motion made by Diane Fredin. Motion seconded by Holly Harjes. Passed. (Agenda item added by Sharon.) Sharon also brought up that a supply of cash kept at the museum by her had been taken and mixed in with the Treasury. The misunderstanding was cleared up, and Tom reimbursed Sharon \$75.00. It was mentioned there should be a supply of petty cash made available. There was general agreement, but no discussion or decision.

Collection Committee Report: The Collection Committee recommended accepting three items. The board voted to accept two (Manual of Farm Law and Forms 1893, and a collection of thirteen (13) old Baptism and marriage certificates). The other (Universal Books of Knowledge) was declined by the board. Motion made by Holly Harjes to accept two of the three. Mike Reinhardt seconded the motion. Passed.

Odds & Ends: Not on the agenda, but discussed at some time during the meeting.

- Mike and maybe Lowell Nagel will decorate the porch for Christmas.
- A copy of the Gaylord history book was donated. It was decided to keep it for our use, and not sell it.
- It will likely not work out for us to share an Executive Director with Le Sueur County.
- Joy stated she had asked Diane Fredin if she would be willing to work one day a week as SCHS Executive Director. No decision yet. Potential salary, etc., need to be determined.
- The obituary index (name, birth date, death date) being worked on by Alice Strobel and Lois Braun is almost complete. A computer problem of Lei's has caused an issue.
- Sharon Haggemiller stated she is quitting at the end of this year.
- Marie Main will not be volunteering for a while. She may return next year.
- Lei Amorim asked if volunteer duties could be better organized. It was thought that had been done. The Volunteer Manual is being investigated. Committee chairs please take the lead!
- **There is no board meeting in December 2023.** The next meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2024.

Mike Reinhardt moved to adjourn the meeting. Tom Frauendienst seconded. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Briggs, substituting for Shirley Black, SCHS Secretary