

Sibley County Historical Society  
700 Main Street  
Henderson, MN 56044

Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, October 27, 2022  
(Meeting held at the Gaylord Library - 5pm)

The meeting was called to order by President Joy Cohrs at 5:00 pm.

Attending: Diane Fredin, Joy Cohrs, Becky Briggs, Holly Harjes, Verne Schlueter, Mike Reinhardt, Tom Frauendienst Shirley Black  
Guests: Judy Loewe, Arlene Busse, Marie Main, Sharon Haggenmiller

**Agenda: Approve/deny October agenda.** Tom Frauendienst made a motion to approve the agenda, Becky Briggs seconded the motion. Passed.

**Minutes: Approve/deny September 2022 minutes.** Diane Fredin made a motion to approve the September minutes. Mike Reinhardt seconded the motion. Passed.

**Treasurer Report: Approve/deny October Treasurer Report.** Tom reviewed the treasury happenings.

- The last payment appropriation for the year from the county was received.
- Membership payments were discussed. While in the past month many members did pay their membership dues, currently 31% of the memberships are past due. This would amount to about \$1,000. Multiple ideas were discussed including sending out postcards to past due members. After discussion, the first attempt will be an email blast by the secretary to all the members that we have an email for.

We discussed that topic of the membership and the lack of growth, especially of younger members. The need for more volunteers was also discussed. Arlene and Marie indicated that they are advancing in age and will need replacements.

The email blast will also include a request for volunteers.

- Lynelle Brant sent in a \$100 check for the upkeep of the cabin. The cabin belonged to an ancestor of Lynelle.
- Tom had received multiple letters/pictures. These were given to the secretary to disperse appropriately.

Mike Reinhardt made a motion to approve the October Treasurer report, while Shirley Black seconded the motion. Passed.

### Old Business

Outside sign-update-Joy Cohrs: The company Joy is working with on the sign needs to have a higher resolution of our logo. After discussion, it was felt that the Henderson Newspaper had the artist that originally worked on the logo. Joy will check with them to see if they have the logo in the resolution that the sign company will need.

Painting Project: It was noted that the painting project work seems to have ceased. There has been some work done including sanding. Tom Frauendienst will check with Dick to see what the status is. If Dick is unable to complete, we will pay him for the work that has been done and seek another painter. It is noted that the weather isn't favorable this late in the fall to do painting outside.

Leading Sibley Tour by Joy and Holly: The Leading Sibley group toured the museum on Thursday, October 6th. There were 20 people who were on the tour. Of those 20 people, only 2 had previously been to the museum.

**New Business:**

December Newsletter-Holly: Goal is to have the newsletter out the first week of December.

Holly ideas- Discussion: See the image attached which outlines ideas that Holly had put together as points of discussion. She is asking for County Fair and Christmas Event ideas for 2023.

Mouse control-Tom: Ursula from Punketts has been contacted. Our current contract is for outside control only. Tom will check on getting the inside of the museum added to the contact, with the stipulation that she come on days that the volunteers are in the building. It was mentioned by the volunteers that there are wasps in the attic. Arlene spoke about the need to have moth control in the building, since there are pieces of clothing (some wool) in the building. Previously used moth hangers have not been refilled for some time. Tom will also check with Punketts on those items.

It is also noted again that there appears to be something in the cabin. It is felt that a squirrel has created a hole and has built a nest.

Committees- Collections/Accessions/Deaccession/ Education/Programs:

Collection Committee – Mike Reinhardt has resigned from the Collection Committee. Joy will replace him on the Committee. Joy led the discussion on the needs of the committees including Past Perfect. Mike Reinhardt will lead a training session on the software.

Deaccession Committee report: Volunteer Susan has been a great help to Arlene and Marie. Holly will assist them. Deaccession Sheets will be created to use to record items as they start the deaccession process.

After a long discussion – it was asked that everyone follow the Collection/Deaccession documents. If the teams run into areas of concern, questions, etc, then bring those to the board meeting for guidance.

Diane Fredin and Joy Cohrs reported on their communications with the late Harriet Traxler's family regarding her Barns of Sibley County photographs. Both her son Tim and her husband Joe have indicated that they are willing to work with us on obtaining the rights to her photographs.

Joy Cohrs: There has been a donation of used PCs from Sibley County to the museum. Joy will work with the Sibley County IT staff to coordinate the installation of those PCs.

It was noted that the Henderson 2022 Christmas Ornament this year features the Sibley County Museum!

Missing camera: There was a concern voiced by Romie Peterson that a camera that was donated to the museum several years ago was missing. It is reported that there are at least two cameras in the museum, a simpler one and a "big" one.

Volunteers – Arlene Busse and Marie Main expressed their concerns to have more volunteers for them to train in. The announcement for volunteers will be included in the email blast that the secretary will be sending out.

Adjournment: Motion was made by Shirley Black, second by Mike Reinhardt to adjoin the meeting. The meeting was adjoined at 6:05 pm.

Special Program:

On Thursday, October 27, 2022 a speaking event on the Dakota Conflict (also known as the Sioux Uprising) was held at the Gaylord Public Library following the October SCHS meeting.



Guest speaker was Steven Osman, a St. Olaf graduate. He has recently retired as the senior historian with the Minnesota Historical Society. He managed Fort Snelling for over 30 years. He has studied the Dakota Conflict and its events, the people involved, and the effects on our Southern Minnesota region.

Mr. Osman gave a wonderfully detailed overview of the 1862 Dakota Conflict. His presentation went through in a timeline fashion, allowing the listener to understand the causes that lead up to the conflict, the context of the conflict and the aftermath left on the area, the settlers, and the Indians.

Mr. Osman's presentation included many depictions (paintings/photos) of the conflict and of the people involved. Mr. Osman provided the audience with the details of the Indian's siege of Fort Ridgley and attack of New Ulm. Both major events in Minnesota's history. Mr. Osman used percentages to explain the impact this conflict had on the local community. For example, comparing the number killed percentage wise to what that would equate to with today's population. This gave the audience an understanding of the huge impact this conflict had on the local community.

Thank you, Mr. Osman, for speaking at this room filled event!

Respectfully Submitted

Shirley Black, SCHS Secretary

SCHS

10/2022

A Visitoren Mansion 1884 Theme

Mission - collect, preserve, teach, History  
of Sibley County — Era of emphasis  
for future; items / permanent displays

\* Newsletter — membership — dues  
4X year — Feb — Annual/Life  
Dec, Mar, June, Sept Board contribute

\* Long term : root/fundraiser/County \$?

\* Inventory: Retain or Remove Process

\* Short Term: Porch Paint, Street Signs,  
handicap signs, copy machine,  
computers, assessment policy, telephones,  
exteriorization

\* Genealogy: obits, photos, list of  
recorded info on file

\* Books to sell

\* Christmas Program: bimonthly, themes

\* County fairs: annual, ideas, towns  
Committee

\* Programs for public — Open on Sat?

\* Displays: Who for focus Space  
Inventory Rotation

\* Contact Schools Spring Years 2023  
Brochure to describe Mar, Apr, May  
Offering / admission \$  
Committee, guides

\* Spring lunch for volunteers  
(Chriivent #) \$250

\* Commissioners visit, Contract w/ Admin  
Lunch in Town

\* Inventory to create display:  
Technology — telephones, cameras  
Clothing areas typewriters  
Medical etc etc Military Uniforms

Combinations of articles  
Photographs  
Calendars/ store items from each  
town

Buggies, cradles quilts  
Spin wheels  
Wardrobe displays = time  
As well build displays = time

To decide elimination. Invite  
other area museums who have  
needs of these items!

Guns

What's our future to  
build volunteer and  
potential leaders?

SCHS  
1940-2022  
Alma 85<sup>th</sup>  
2023

Holly's ideas. - presented  
Oct. 27th @ October Meeting