

CLAY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MINUTES- Approved
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TUESDAY, October 15, 2018 @9:00 A.M.

The monthly meeting of the Clay County Historical Society was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Dan Christopherson. Members present were: Dan Christopherson, Gloria Hensley, Joni Freidel, Erin Burrow, Ruth Bylander, Maxine Johnson, Marvin Walz, Judy Sullivan, Art Rusch, and Barb Campbell, Kevin Jacobson, Jim Stone; also present was Wess Pravecek, Executive Director for the Austin-Whittemore House. Members absent were Lisa Johnson.

The agenda was reviewed and accepted, with two additions, by motion of Gloria Hensley; seconded by Ruth Bylander; motion passed. The minutes were passed as corrected by motion of Joni Freidel; seconded by Gloria H; motion passed. The treasurer's report for September was presented by Joni Freidel. A complete report will be available for perusal in the office. The report was accepted by motion of Gloria H; second by Art Rusch; motion passed.

Wess Pravecek, Executive Director Report:

- Wess reminded all members to fill out their volunteer hour sheets.
- Wess and Erin Burrow will attend the 2nd Annual Evening of Engagement at the Old Lumber Company, hosted by Vermillion NEXT, on October 18. It's an opportunity to connect with young professionals in the community and share the mission of CCHS.
- The Community Foundation will be using the Austin-Whittemore House for their regular meetings until the Community Connection Center opens. ESA will also meet at the house soon and another OLLI class will use the space as well.
- Wess will announce a cleaning work day to ready the house for the Tour of Homes event.

OLD BUSINESS:

a) Bathroom Addition: The extension is now partially tiled and the flooring is close to complete. We are still in search of a wall mounted sink (preferably in a vintage style). Gene Hawkins and crew have done a lot of "above and beyond" work to make the addition fit the look of the house seamlessly. He will need \$2500 to complete the final phase. After looking at the latest bills, Jim Stone feels we are staying close to budget.

b) CCHS Aprons and Shirts: Wess spoke to the owners at THINK printing here in Vermillion, and they are willing to do online orders of aprons, as well as printing a small stock to have on hand in the House. They just need to see the logo and how it will fit the apron and give us the list of possible colors.

c) Tour of Homes Update: It has been decided to raise the ticket price to \$20 a piece and \$25 for the bus tour tickets. Barb Campbell will contact Vermillion Public Transit to ensure we have use of the bus that evening. The question was raised about hosting the Sweets & Treats event earlier in the month, possibly December 1. As advertising has already gone out with December 15 listed as the event date, it was decided not to change this year. Barb Campbell agreed to chair the Sweets & Treats event.

d) Ramp Painting: This project should be completed soon, now that rainy weather has cleared. We also learned that Keith Joy expects to be able to finish the gutter project next week.

e) Cemetery Walk Recap: As of right now, it appears the Cemetery Walk took in \$890 in ticket sales, and we had about \$90 in associated expenses. There were just over 70 participants on the evening and the feedback has been very positive. It was recommended that next year's committee have six people, to help make the research load manageable.

f) Laptop Computer: Wess is looking for seed money towards a new or refurbished laptop for the office, but this project won't become a priority until after the work on the bathroom addition is finished.

g) Fall Tanager Work Day: The work day has been moved to this week, Wednesday, October 17, after inclement weather on the 10th. Students will be at the house at 8:30am.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Todd Nelson of Merrill Lynch Investments: Financial Advisor Todd Nelson met with the board to discuss our current Investments and how they are set up. Todd was able to show that both accounts have done fairly well this last year, and explained that we are primarily invested in low risk/low volatility areas. The board asked for recommendations on how to best use our funds for our extension project. (Complete copies of the Merrill Lynch reports are available in the office for perusal.)

A motion was made by Barb Campbell to cash in \$15,000 in stocks from the non-endowed Merrill Lynch account to be used toward the bathroom extension project. The motion was seconded by Maxine Johnson. The motion carried. Todd will make the necessary arrangements.

b) Office Flooring: The possibility of updating the floor in the office was discussed, but it was decided to wait until the addition is finished to make any plans.

c) Stationary: Ruth Bylander brought estimates from Pressing Matters for printing letter head and envelopes with the CCHS logo. Depending on the number of sheets and the choice of black and white or color printing, the cost could be between \$170 and \$324 dollars. There was discussion about the necessity of preprinted stationary and possible alternatives. Ruth has agreed to ask Pressing Matter for a quote on CCHS logo note cards and the possibility of an electronic template for business letters.

d) Events Calendar: Jim Stone would like to suggest an events calendar to be shared between CCHS, the Clay County Historic Preservation Commission, and the WH Over Museum. It may also be extended the newly formed Vermillion Historic Preservation group. Questions about how and where the calendar would be used were discussed. Jim also hoped CCHS would be able to provide a list of fixed annual events from CCHS. Judy Sullivan told the board the November shared newsletter will go out the second week of November.

Gloria Hensley moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned in due form by the president.

The next regular business meeting will be held Monday, November 19 at 9:00 am.

Submitted by

Erin Burrow

Recording Secretary