

German Settlement History, Inc.

Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting held at Liberty School, Saturday, January 10, 2004.

1. Meeting was called to order by Pres. Michael Meier. He invited everyone to introduce himself/herself.
2. Michael Cullen, Marilyn Erickson, Karen Johnson, Luann Lind, Maryalice McHugh, Gene Meier, Marvin Meier, Michael Meier, Ron Meier and Toni Meier were present. Tuffy Marheine and Patricia Mueller were absent.
3. Ron brought up the question of whether our board meetings must be open to the public and announced in area media. In the discussion it was thought not as we are a private not-for-profit corporation. Toni and Michael will research this for clarification.
4. The board agreed that we would work by consensus and that when necessary Roberts rules of order would be followed.
5. From the discussion about tenure and replacement of board members it was agreed that board members would not have terms but would have the freedom to resign as they deem necessary. Candidates could be suggested by any board member and vacant positions would be filled by ballot of the continuing board members. We agreed on the principle of three year terms for the officers of the corporation and that they could succeed themselves. A number of items came up in discussion that it was agreed needed to be dealt with by taking action on them as By-Laws at our June meeting. These include: Board member replacement policy; removal of a board member by a two-thirds vote of the board and three year terms for officers. Board members made it very clear that we want to operate with everything documented and legal and in a spirit of inclusiveness.
6. Treasurer's report was handed out and discussed. Board voted to accept it upon a motion by Ron, seconded by Marvin.
7. Goals for 2004: It was agreed to furnish the first floor of Yesterday House as a might have been for a family living in 1905-1910, with the second floor devoted to "cottage industry" from the same time period (loom, sewing machine, shoe making tools, etc. etc.)  
From the discussion of the treasurer's report the matter of adding assets by accessioning them was reviewed and as a part of that process Toni explained that documentation in the form of duplicate copies of forms for gifted items and loan items would be required.  
Maryalice offered to help Toni explore the various documentations that we will want to have in place. Maryalice has documentation on the Yesterday House and the Johnson Family that she will make available. Michael stated that he thought that a picture of the Johnson family (original builders) should be in the Yesterday House.  
Luann offered to do the photo resource book for cataloguing artifacts. It was agreed that there would be at least two copies of this catalogue—one available

in the Yesterday House and one kept separately for safekeeping. The catalogue will have pictures and descriptions of every item owned by the corporation. Items will be entered into the catalog as they are accessioned. Building needs for rodent proofing was the next item of discussion. Karen will research possibilities for resources (persons/materials) for having the windows and the damaged logs restored. Ron, Gene and Marvin offered to do the concrete block foundation work.

Under Special Events and Fund Raising it was agreed that the Liberty School Reunion scheduled for July 24, 2004 will be sponsored by German Settlement History, Inc. and that it be used as our major fund raiser this year.

8. Budget for 2004 will be developed upon research of projects for 2004 and will be approved at the June meeting.
9. Long-term goals were discussed at length. We want young people on the board, we want a combination of continuity and freshness. This project is bigger than the Yesterday House—all of Spirit, its families and businesses. Someday we may need more land!
10. When the Yesterday House is ready we will have an open house and publicize it widely. The building will be available for people to see at certain times when Toni and Michael are there. Also, we will post a list of the names of board members and their telephone numbers and each board member will have a key so they could open the building for visitors.  
Ron has more trees to donate and may be able to have a logging day yet this winter.

Jeanette Barnes' last two books are available in quantity. There are three pallets of books in Tennessee. Gene will research transportation. We talked about whether we might be able to sell the books as part of our funding. We will continue working on this idea. Marvin suggested we buy the rights to "Never Miss A Sunset." Ron will research buying the rights to Jeannette's books. Other Spirit authors including Carl Rhody, Jimmy Rhody and Roy Meier were discussed. Perhaps we could promote their works also.

11. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Saturday, June 19, from 11:15-1:00 at Liberty School. Lunch will be potluck. The board meeting was adjourned following the setting of the next meeting date.
12. Several board members toured the Yesterday House after the meeting and noted the fine work Matthew Rhody did taking out and replacing the floor.