

German Settlement History, Inc.
April 4, 2009 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Meier at 11:15 A.M.

Present at the meeting were Marilyn Erickson, Maryalice McHugh, Gene Meier, Toni Meier, Michael Meier, Ron Meier, Marvin Meier, Luann Lind, and Dawn Meier. Absent and excused were Karen Johnson, Karen Baumgartner and Patricia Mueller. Visitors included Pat Swenson, LaVonne Meier, Becky Otto, Laura Otto and Darrel Lind.

The minutes of the January 25, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved as written. The Treasurer's report was reviewed and approved as written.

The Barn Dance Fundraiser planned for May 24, 2009 was discussed with Luann asking for volunteers to take the lead for committee assignments.

Distribute flyers to various grocery stores and bank bulletin boards. Rib Lake by Toni, Prentice and Ogema by Marilyn, Tomahawk by Pam Welch and Medford by Dawn.

Advertising in local newspapers and radio stations - Dawn and Pam

Sweep the haymow - Carl Lind and Hesston Meier

Vacuum the haymow - Marie Meier and Dawn and Toni

Baking Pies - Karen J, LaVonne, Marilyn and Dawn

Silent Auction Set-up - Dawn and Pam and Toni

Set up Sunday at 2:00 - Michael, Gene, and others as available

Greeter for sign-in book at the door 6:45 - 8:15 - Marilyn

Serving Pies at 8:00 - Maryalice, Patricia and Joleen Meier

Selling Books - Dawn and Pam

Count money and tally silent auction bids - Maryalice and Toni

Michael and Toni introduced the topic Future of this Property in regard to succession planning. After meeting with a Professional Gift Planner and discussing the options with their children, they presented a proposal to the board that would formally name German Settlement History, Inc. as the beneficiary of the land and buildings associated with the Liberty School property. Many of the details need to be worked out with their lawyer and financial planner, but Michael and Toni and their eight children all feel strongly about the community investment and wish to see the legacy continue for future generations. Following the presentation, Marvin presented a motion to provisionally approve the proposal of the gifting of Michael and Toni's property to GSHI, with a second from Ron and unanimously passed by the board. This will require some adjustments be made to the existing GSHI Board especially the president and treasurer positions. With the assistance of Karen Baumgartner, GSHI will need to coordinate with Wisconsin State Historical Society to ensure proper planning.

Michael reported that the next issue of the Liberty School News is being worked on. Anyone that is able to receive the publication electronically should notify Michael as an attempt to save postage and handling.

In discussing the next scheduled work day, Luann suggested that we review the project list and designate people that are interested in helping with a particular task. Whenever a day presents itself to work on a project, the group would coordinate whenever available.

Chinking - Luann and Toni

Book binding - Karen J and Toni

Flower Garden - Toni, Marvin and Dawn and LaVonne

Site prep for new building – Gene and Michael

Maryalice would like to be notified when projects are scheduled and would drive over if available.

The building committee presented a bid proposal from Henry Mast with a detailed sketch for the 40' x 40' shed. After comparing the previous estimates that were received, Gene made a motion, seconded by Luann to accept the building design as drawn by Henry, including the offset roof with a 12' lean-to, unanimously approved by the GSHI Board.

Marvin made a motion, seconded by Luann to accept the bid proposal of Henry Mast and move forward with the construction plans for the building this year, unanimously approved by GSHI Board. The building cost of \$16,320, will be possible with the combination of the current assets, the \$1,000 grant that was recently approved from Plum Creek Corporation and upcoming monies that will be raised at the Barn Dance Fundraiser.

Toni made a motion with a second by Marvin for the color for the new building as Gallery Blue for the primary and Light Gray for the trim of the building, unanimously approved by GSHI Board. Henry is currently working on a barn roofing project in Spirit, so Karen Johnson will coordinate with Henry to get this project on his schedule. Terry Johnson has offered to deliver the materials to the site.

Spirit Memorial Park update - LaVonne reported that the play equipment will be delivered in April. Site work including grading and haul sand for the playground will need to be completed this spring.

Luann Lind has photographed the covers of the books that we offer for sale on the website and will incorporate an order form and procedure for ordering books online. Several of the books that GSHI has publishing rights to are out of print. LaVonne is aware of a publisher in Amherst and will research the possibility of having them work with us to publish other books.

The next GSHI meeting is scheduled for Sunday June 14, 2009 at 2:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier
Secretary