

German Settlement History, Inc.
March 12, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 1:42 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Luann Lind, Karen Johnson, Marilyn Erickson, Toni Meier, Marv Meier, Ron Meier, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Gene Meier, Maryalice McHugh, Pam Welch and Dawn Meier. Visitors included Tyler Teuscher and Anna Weddig (UWSP students), Pat Swenson, LaVonne Meier, Marie Meier, Barb Failing and Gary Failing.

The minutes of the January 16, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion, seconded by Toni to accept the minutes with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Toni moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Maryalice with unanimous approval. Maryalice questioned the status of a check that she had written at the January meeting which had not yet cleared the bank. Toni and Pam will investigate and track it down.

We discussed becoming an affiliated member of the State Historical Society. Karen Baumgartner informed us that our Constitution would need to be approved by the State Historical Society and that if something happens with our organization where it dissolved, the State Historical Society would be able to come in and claim all of the property and artifacts as their first option. Karen B. also explained that an advantage of being affiliated with the State Historical Society would be that we would be part of a larger group who holds regional trainings and we could learn from others and benefit from experts in the field. Toni informed us that the Articles of Incorporation state that an entity can direct whatever happens with everything in the event that the Corporation dissolves and that the organization has the power to protect or do whatever they want to with the property. Additional research and specifications need to be determined on this issue before we agree to move forward.

Regarding an official affiliation with Price County Historical Society (PCHS) Karen B. told us that through the Strategic Plan which Glenn Brazelton is working on, we will be connected to Price County Historical Society, although currently they do not specifically have any official affiliates. Perhaps "liaison" to the PCHS would be a better term to suggest to Glenn for inclusion in the Strategic Plan. Karen B. made a motion, second by Maryalice to continue to research the possibilities of becoming affiliated with State Historical Society and to consider the option of providing a liaison from our Board to the Price County Historical Society Board of Directors. There was unanimous approval by the Board, with a commitment to discuss this topic in the future and to table it until we get additional information.

Planning for the 7th Annual Barn Dance on May 29, 2011 including the standard assignments:
Distributing posters - Toni, Marilyn, Karen Baumgartner and Pam
Advertising in newspapers and local radio stations - Pam and Dawn
Vacuum & Clean Barn - Toni, Marv, Karen Johnson and Marie Meier

Pie Bakers - Marilyn, Karen J., Pam, Toni, LaVonne and Dawn (all pies should be sliced into 8 pieces, returned to the original box and clearly labeled with the flavor)
Setting up Sunday afternoon at 2:00 - Dawn, Pam, Marv, Karen B., Toni and the Holliday family
Setting up the Silent Auction Items - Toni, Karen B., and Joleen Meier
Greeters beginning at 6:30 - Marilyn, Ron and Gene
Serving pie, ice cream, coffee beginning at 8:00 - Karen B., Karen J., Dawn Maryalice, Michael and Joleen Meier
Tally and distribution of the Silent Auction at 10:00 - Maryalice, Toni and Karen B.
Greeting visitors at Liberty school until it gets dark - Michael

We agreed that the funds generated from this year's Barn Dance will be put into the informational signs for GSHI which are being designed by UWSP students. Michael suggested a theme could be "Signs of the Times".

The Interpretive Media class at UWSP has assigned five students to focus on GSHI as their class project this semester. Three of the students (Jody Hopp, Meagan Leatherbury and Edwin Koepp) visited GSHI on February 25 who met with Karen Baumgartner, Luann, Toni, Ron and Dawn to learn about our mission and goals. Prior to the meeting, Anna Weddig and Tyler Teuscher spent some time with Michael, Toni, Karen B, Gene and Dawn to tour the buildings, gathering themes and project visioning for their assignments. Each of the five students will be required to develop two individual pieces of media for their class. What we have agreed on includes:

1. A panel giving an overview of GSHI, history of the property and what we are all about.
2. A panel that focuses on the Yesterday House
3. A panel for the Machine Shed with the theme of logging and farming equipment
4. A panel focusing on Liberty School and its history
5. A general brochure which ties all of the above together.
6. A traveling display that could be used at Fairs and other Events to publicize GSHI
7. A display which captures the names of students who attended Liberty School that went on to served our country in war and peacetime.
8. An indoor panel that focuses on the miniature school room and what a student might expect between 1930 and 1955.
9. A brochure for the machine shed which describes many of the implements and equipment.
10. A panel describing the folklore of Father Menard which ties into the Rock Monument originally found by Carl and Roy Meier in the 1900's.

The students will be researching their individual themes and looking for any specific resources that are available such as digital photos, documents, personal stories, etc. Their overall class project is due the first part of May at which time they will formally present their ideas for their class grade. GSHI will then have access to their projects and could move forward with fabrication of any of the pieces that we would like to produce. The only cost obligation to GSHI will be the transportation reimbursement to the university for the 2 trips the students made to visit the site.

The project list does not show much accomplishment since the last meeting. Once the snow melts a bit and the weather warms, we will plan a workday to assist with putting up shelving in the Machine Shed and doing some other needed projects.

There were mechanical problems with the computer which is under warranty from Hewlett Packard, so we are expecting a new computer before the Past Perfect Software which has been purchased, can be installed.

Luann has connections with a Publisher in Iowa and will check on the logistics and possibility of having the books published that we have a need for.

Pam prepared for Board Member signatures, a certificate to Patricia Mueller for her years of dedicated service to the Board, with a nice frame which Luann will present to Patricia at the next opportunity.

GSHI received two thank you notes, one from Flambeau Home Health and Hospice and another from Karen Baumgartner thanking our organization for making a memorial donation on behalf of her husband John.

Karen B. made a suggestion that we are in need of additional kitchen items from the 1900's that could be displayed on the newly acquired shelf in the Yesterday house. Karen B. also suggested that several items in the Yesterday House could use WD40 to extend their longevity.

Marilyn informed us that Sr. Robert Marie Manthey recently passed and reminded us that at one time she lived in the Yesterday House and that she and Ron would work on documenting the complete list of names of the families who lived in the house over the years.

The next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 25, 2011 at 1:00 following a potluck lunch.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Marv second by Karen J at 3:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

Secretary
03-12-2011