

German Settlement History, Inc.
March 25, 2012 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 1:32 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Luann Lind, Karen Johnson, Marilyn Erickson, Toni Meier, Marv Meier, Barb Failing, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Gene Meier, Maryalice McHugh, Pam Welch and Dawn Meier. Visitors included Pat Swenson, LaVonne Meier, Marie Arneson, Marvin Arneson and Bob Harsch.

The minutes of the January 28, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion, seconded by Marv to accept the minutes with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Marv moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Karen J. with unanimous approval. Pam reported about her research on opening a savings account and found that the interest rate is virtually the same as a checking account. She will pursue a money market account for our next meeting.

We discussed becoming an affiliated member of the Wisconsin Historical Society. Karen Baumgartner informed us that our Constitution would need to be approved by the Wisconsin Historical Society and that if something happens with our organization where it dissolved, the Wisconsin 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 Wisconsin 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.

Barn Dance Committee Members for the 8th Annual Barn Dance on May 27, 2012:

Distribute Posters: Pam - Tomahawk
 Toni - Rib Lake, Brantwood, Tripoli, Ogema
 Marilyn - Prentice
 Karen B. - Phillips & Medford

Radio and Newspaper Ads: Dawn & Pam

Greeters at Barn Entrance: Gene, Marilyn & Barb

Bake Pies: Cut each in 8 pieces and return to boxes before bringing. Karen J., Toni, Marilyn, Barb

Serve Pie & Ice Cream: Karen J., Maryalice, Karen B, Dawn, Joleen, Michael

Sweep floor: Luann

Vacuum & Clean Barn: Luann, Karen J., Toni, Marvin

Greeting visitors at Liberty School until it gets dark - Michael

Count Money and Process Silent Auction Purchases: Maryalice, Toni, Karen B.

Sell books: Whoever is there at the moment.

Silent Auction Set-up: Joleen, Toni, Karen B., Luann

Set up on Saturday morning @ 9:30. Barb, Karen B., Maryalice, Michael, Toni, Luann
The more that help the faster setup goes!!!

Michael will ask Kelly Sweo if she is willing to play bluegrass music outside on the lawn before the DJ gets started. Luanne will ask her grandson Carl to construct a hay maze again this year - since it was so popular. Funds generated from this year's Barn Dance will be put into building an accessible ramp into the haymow.

Project List:

Book publishing sub-committee of Maryalice and Toni reported that Carl Rhody's 1st book has been scanned and now available in an electronic format for the ease of finding a publisher. By the next meeting they will have pricing information from interested publishers who may want to work with us.

Re-shingling the Yesterday House is expected to be accomplished this spring. Gene needs to pick-up more nails for the job and he has received an offer from Ed Scheller for use of scaffolding that should work well for the job.

The two interpretive signs for the Yesterday House and the overall German Settlement sign were reviewed and we talked about the placement of them. We plan to have them permanently in place in the next couple of months.

Marilyn requested that we work on the final edits of the Veterans interpretive sign. A motion was made by Marv, second by Maryalice with unanimous approval by the board that the Veterans sign would be the next priority for signage. With this being an indoor sign, it could be printed on paper so will be less expensive than the outdoor signs. For the June meeting, Michael will present the list of military participants affiliated with Liberty School and also military artifacts that he has collected to date.

The Machine Shed interpretive sign will be modified slightly over what the UWSP students developed. LaVonne will be purchasing the sign in memory of Ronald. A replacement farming photo is being sought to replace the photo of the 4H kids with dairy cattle at the fair. By the June meeting, we will determine which new photo will be placed in the lower middle section of the sign. Once the interpretive sign is completed, it will be placed on the wall on the Machine Shed under the awning, with an additional brass plate added with Ron's name.

Luann is also working on painting the 4 x 8 aluminum sign that will say "The Machine Shed", to be posted near German Settlement Road.

We discussed brochure development, but due to so many other projects we are currently undertaking, there was a motion by Michael, second by Pam with unanimous approval to table the brochure topic until the fall meeting.

Michael, Gene & Marv have been spending time working in the machine shed and have made terrific progress. We appreciate all the details that have been taken care of in that area.

Marilyn, Karen B., and Luann have sorted through nine boxes that originally came from Roy Meier with the Yesterday House and have paired down to 4 boxes of items of things we wish to keep.

Luann has done an amazing job updating our website. There were a few suggestions of font changes that would make reading easier for the longer text pages, but overall we are very pleased.

Michael reported that he has been accumulating several articles for the next issue of the Liberty School News and that it would be published in time to announce the Barn Dance.

Building of the accessible ramp on the outside of the Lind barn will be accomplished in April with leadership from Nathan Lind and assistance from Board Members.

We received an invitation from the Fred Smith Concrete Park to participate in their upcoming Heritage Days event. After discussing several options to provide assistance, it was decided that we have too many immediate projects we have committed to already this spring and would respectfully decline their invitation.

Toni announced that the First Lutheran Church in Prentice is removing their wooden pews and replacing them with chairs and is offering the pews free to whoever wants them. A motion was made by Maryalice, second by Barb with unanimous approval to accept all the pews that they have available for our use at the Barn Dance.

Karen B. updated us on the information regarding affiliation to the Wisconsin Historical Society. There is a questionnaire that Michael and Toni with assistance from Karen B. will complete and file the necessary affiliation paperwork.

Following the indoor portion of the meeting, we took a photo of the Board of Directors, walked outside to view ~~the~~ proposed placement of the interpretive signs and also took a tour of the progress within the Machine Shed.

The next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 23, 2012 at 12:00 following a potluck lunch.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Karen B. second by Barb at 3:26.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

Secretary
04-04-2012