

German Settlement History, Inc.
September 2, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 5:01 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Karen Baumgartner, Michael Meier, Maryalice Mc Hugh, Toni Meier, Pam Welch, Marv Meier, Karen Johnson, Gene Meier, Barb Failing, Marilyn Erickson, Luann Lind and Dawn Meier.

The minutes of the June 23, 2012 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion, second by Pam to accept the minutes with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. There was discussion on the official ownership of the accessible ramp at the Lind farm, regarding liability. It was noted that the GSHI insurance covers the liability of the ramp during the Barn Dance, but not throughout the rest of the year. A motion was made by Michael, second by Karen J. with unanimous approval to transfer the permanent ownership of the accessible ramp to the Lind's. Maryalice moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, second by Michael with unanimous approval.

Toni raised the issue of financial accountability regarding the handling of check authorization and bank reconciliation. Correct accounting procedures call for split responsibilities, regarding any person who has authorization to sign the checks, should not be the person who reconciles the bank statement. It was therefore agreed that Toni and Pam will come up with a new procedure and present their recommendation at the January meeting.

Following a suggestion from Barb, Marv made a motion, second by Karen J. with unanimous approval from the board to have the Treasurer in the future present a detailed comparison of expenses for the Barn Dance, the same as has been presented for the income generated from the event.

Finding a book publisher for several of the out-of-print books we wish to have additional copies printed has been quite challenging. Toni has a lead from Marcy Braski on a possible publisher who will work with us and will be following up.

Re-shingling of the Yesterday House is nearing completion. The south side was completed earlier in the summer. Gene has been working on the north side as he has time and is nearly half completed, which is estimated to be about 20 hours of work. Don Rhody will assist with several rows, in exchange for Gene hauling some cattle for him.

The sub-committee working on the Veteran's display (Michael, Marv, Marilyn and Dawn) presented several lists of possible Liberty School students who were also veterans. Additional research is being done to fine-tune the list of names. In addition, the sub-committee is editing the interpretive sign developed by the UW Stevens Point students "In Service to Liberty" which will eventually be incorporated into a display in the former boy's hall. A motion by Pam, second by Maryalice with unanimous approval authorizes Dawn to purchase a used male mannequin to be used for Ronald Meier's Korean War dress uniform as part of the military display. Other items are being collected and will be displayed as appropriate.

The Machine Shed sign "The Good Ol' Days" which was purchased by LaVonne Meier and installed on the west entrance to the building recently, will also have a small plaque describing the interpretive sign being presented in memory of Ronald Meier, a founding member of GSHI. Maryalice made a motion, second by Michael with unanimous approval for Luann to place an order at the trophy shop for a similar plaque that was used in the gardens. We also plan to have an official dedication of the interpretive sign, once the plaque is installed.

The next issue of Liberty School News is planned to be sent out in November. We will incorporate a statement that asks for help from volunteers to assist on the various projects on our to-do list. Utilizing Facebook will be another way to get the word out

about volunteer needs and including our members in the project accomplishments. As the Board of Directors of GSHI we have accomplished a lot this past year, but we could really use assistance from others to do even more.

Our computer program "Past Perfect" has a feature for easily tracking volunteer hours which is useful data when we are applying for grants or analyzing our accomplishments from year to year. Dawn will develop a simple spreadsheet that can be used to track hours and this will be passed around at each meeting to help capture the hours volunteered between quarterly meetings. Volunteer hours can be counted for actual time spent working, driving time, time needed for assembling materials and tools for a project, plus any administration and planning time, including attending meetings.

Our next annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday January 26, 2013 at 10 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch. This meeting will include the election of two Board Members and election of officers as needed. Board members serve a five year term, with two people - Marv Meier and Marilyn Erickson reaching the end of their current limit. Karen J. and Dawn volunteered to be the nominating committee to present nominees for consideration at the January elections.

Next year's events need to be announced well in advance with Price County Tourism and other sources of advertising. We agreed that the Barn Dance will be Sunday May 26, 2013. There will be a "Friends of Liberty School Picnic" on July 20, 2013 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. GSHI will provide the meat for grilling and drinks, with potluck dishes being contributed by attendees. GSHI will have our annual Open House over Labor Day Weekend, Sunday from 1 – 5 p.m. and Monday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Beginning in 2013, there will be a report presented at each of our meetings that lists the acquisitions from the previous quarter and also year to date. "Past Perfect" software enables documentation of items, documents, photos, etc. and would be an ideal project for volunteers to begin work on documenting our acquisitions. One example that was recently donated by Linda Marshall was a Chautauqua teaching aid that is perhaps from the 1920's.

Toni displayed a large framed B&W print of a woman with cows that she recently acquired at a yard sale. Marv will take it to the Center for Visual Arts to have someone look at it to offer advice on how to properly clean and display the piece.

In recent years, Luann and Marilyn have been setting up a booth at both the Spirit, Hill, Ogema 4-H Fair and the Price County Fair which displays some of our brochures and photos. It was decided not to set up a booth at the Price County Fair next year, but to continue the booth at the Spirit fair.

Karen B. informed us about a website Find-a-grave.com which may provide helpful resources for those doing genealogical research.

Our Labor Day Weekend Open House seemed to be a success, with over 100 people coming to visit over the two days.

Marv picked up five large folding tables from someone and felt that it would be nice if we paid \$5 per table, in which Marv made a \$25 donation to GSHI to cover the expenditure. Michael made a motion, second by Maryalice with unanimous approval to accept the tables and that GSHI would send \$25 to the owner of the tables.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Marv, second by Karen J. at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier
Secretary
09-16-2012