

**German Settlement History, Inc.**  
**March 23, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 10:12 A.M.

Present at the meeting were Toni Meier, Marv Meier, Barb Failing, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Gene Meier, Luann Lind and Dawn Meier with Maryalice McHugh joining the meeting via Skype. Pam Welch, Ed Scheller and Karen Johnson were absent. Visitors included Pat Swenson, Marilyn Erickson and Joleen Meier.

The minutes of the January 23, 2013 meeting were reviewed. Gene made a motion, seconded by Marv to accept the minutes with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. Karen B. moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Dawn with unanimous approval.

Michael presented the current membership promotion for GSHI which includes a copy of *Spirit Valley III* written by Carl Rhody along with a description of the remaining books in the series that could be purchased. To date, 43 paid memberships have received the book. Karen B. presented a motion, with a second by Marv, that GSHI should cover the postage needed for sending these books. The motion passed with unanimous approval. Michael made a motion with a second by Karen B. to begin selling the Carl Rhody books for \$7.50 with the full set of five for \$35.00 which passed with unanimous approval.

Toni has been working with DigiCopy in Wausau who drafted the 2nd proof of Carl Rhody's *Spirit Valley I* book. The first proof was unsatisfactory since the photographs were too dark. The first order will include 200 copies as approved at the January 26, 2013 meeting. Maryalice is making good progress on scanning books II and IV of the Spirit Valley series. With a motion by Michael and seconded by Barb we voted unanimously to proceed with publishing 200 copies each of *Spirit Valley II* and *Spirit Valley IV*.

Luann has been in contact with Dean Gilge regarding the rights to publish Jeanette Gilge's books. Dean has re-read Jeanette's Will which lists David C. Cook Publishing Company. They have since gone out of business, so Dean does not know what the legal response would be. He will send us a Deed of Gift on behalf of himself and his siblings which gives us permission to proceed with re-printing Jeanette's books as needed. We currently have 560 unbound copies of Never Miss a Sunset which Toni will get an estimate from DigiCopy for the cost to bind them.

There have been requests from the public to reveal the real names of the characters from the Never Miss a Sunset book. Maryalice has a list from Grace Ann Hanson which we will make available as an insert for each book. There are also several typographical errors to the unbound copies, which Marilyn has reviewed and will provide that list to be included with the books. Another common request is a basic map of the area which displays the prominent roads and homesteads as a reference. For the next meeting, everyone is asked to bring whichever versions of old maps they have of the Spirit area, whereby we will be able to compile the information into one aerial view which we will then distribute as requested.

Dawn presented the latest draft of the In Service to Liberty interpretive panel which has been an ongoing project with Schmeckle Reserve at UW Stevens Point. Marv moved, with a second by Gene to proceed with the fabrication of the sign, with unanimous approval. Luann suggested that we bring the completed panel to the Memorial Day program and announce that we will dedicate the sign at our summer picnic. The list of known Liberty School students who served in the military will also be made available.

Tuesday April 9 at 10:00 am is the next scheduled work day to continue progress in the Machine Shed.

At the July 20 picnic we are planning a 1:00 pm dedication where Michael will serve as Master of Ceremony to officially dedicate *The Good Ol Days* sign on the Machine Shed to the memory of founding Board Member, Ronald Meier, and the *In Service to Liberty* panel inside the Liberty School as part of the overall veteran display.

Good progress has been made with our Past Perfect documentation, the membership is current and work is continuing on documentation and accessioning of artifacts. To date we have 192 objects entered into the computer through a process which included photographing, tagging and entering each item. Every item also needs a Deed of Gift document. Some items may utilize a Temporary Custody document.

There was a discussion regarding how extensive we wish to advertise. Currently Price County Tourism charges us \$10.00 for every date they publish on their website and paper distribution materials. With new interest being generated through our Website and Facebook sites, along with word of mouth, we do not feel that there is a need to pay for additional advertising at this time. The next step with legitimizing our affiliation with Wisconsin Historical Society is to send them our new by-laws before we can proceed. It was noted that GSHI has been included on the statewide map in their publication, due to the fact that the Yesterday House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Barn Dance Committee Members for the 9th Annual Barn Dance on May 26, 2013 were reviewed by Luann. Board of Director assignments is similar to past years. Set up will be on Saturday morning @ 9:30. Karen B. made a motion, second by Marv with unanimous approval to earmark all funds raised this year for publishing the books that are in progress.

The board agreed to purchase a bulk supply of glow sticks and jewelry for the kids at the Barn Dance as a way to promote visibility and encourage their safety while playing in the yard. Pam and Dawn will see to the procurement of the toys. Darrel and Luann have graveled a second driveway on their property from the funds we provided them for hosting the event for GSHI each year. This will allow for a one-way traffic flow into the barn for easy drop-off and pick-up. Board Members are encouraged to loan their solar lights that could be used to better illuminate the entire driveway the night of the Barn Dance. Necessary paper goods and other supplies for the event will also be paid for by GSHI and will be picked up by Pam and Dawn from the list of items on hand that Luann provided.

Dawn raised the issue of the existing life insurance policy and requested further details for the knowledge of the Board. Currently there is a 15 year term policy on Michael Meier with GSHI named as beneficiary, which covers the existing mortgage on the property. Michael and Toni have been paying the entire \$289 monthly premium, which is reflected in the Treasurer's Report as their donation to GSHI. Dawn made a motion, seconded by Marv with unanimous approval to pay \$900 from GSHI account for the first year to cover roughly one-quarter of the insurance premium and to review it again next year.

Maryalice suggested that we reach out to the local schools to begin offering field trips to the property. We would need to develop a program with activities. Michael volunteered to contact the Rib Lake School District and Luann volunteered to contact Camp Forest Springs as another option to reach out to the community.

The next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Saturday June 22, 2013 at 10:00 followed by a potluck lunch.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Marv second by Barb at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

Secretary  
04-04-2013