

German Settlement History, Inc.
June 22, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 2:00 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Barb Failing, Marv Meier, Pam Welch, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Toni Meier, Gene Meier, Luann Lind, Maryalice McHugh and Dawn Meier. Absent and excused was Karen Johnson. Visitors included Joleen Meier, Pat Swenson and Clare Meier.

The minutes of the March 15, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion, seconded by Marv to accept the minutes as written with unanimous approval.

Upon reviewing the treasurer's report, Maryalice made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Marv with unanimous approval.

10th Annual Barn Dance Fundraiser held May 25th was discussed. Several noted improvements from previous years included: cleaning and setting-up for the event in advance was a great improvement, especially with additional assistance from the Holliday kids. Red, white and blue glow sticks given to the kids once it got dark was a big hit. It seemed like there was a lot more dancing this year, especially with Duane Karau and his friends displaying their proficiency of ballroom dance and presentation from Gary Edinger's square dance group. There seemed to be lots of extra pie at the end of the night. Next year we recommend less pie and more ice cream and to offer bowls of ice cream without pie to help even out the demand. The sound of Luann's dinner triangle greatly helped to signal the end of the silent auction at 10:00 o'clock. There was still a bit of chaos and confusion when the silent auction ended with individuals wanting to take their own items without going through the proper sequence. Having Jesse Rhody serve as "runner" throughout the evening was very helpful and appreciated whenever something needed to be retrieved from the house or re-supplied in the barn.

The silent auction proceeds were a bit lower than last year, although the donation buckets at the door and at the pie table helped to even out our income for the evening. Money raised at the Barn Dance will be used to pay for the newly installed bookshelves inside the former "Girl's Hall" which is the permanent display of our military archives, miniature classroom display and school books library.

Gene made a motion, with a second by Toni to purchase a \$50 gas card to be given to Gary Edinger as a thank you for calling the square dances. Karen Baumgartner volunteered to prepare a thank you note with the gift card on behalf of G.S.H.I. Board of Directors.

Michael presented an update on James Rhody's book "Brant's Bear" which is currently out of print. He has been in contact with Jim's daughter Barbara Eckels who along with her brother, have indicated they would give G.S.H.I. permission to reprint the book. Michael will follow-up to secure the proper Deed-of-Gift granting G.S.H.I privileges to re-print the book as needed.

With input from the Veteran's Committee (Marilyn Erickson, Dawn Meier and Michael Meier) Michael has made great progress on expertly displaying much of the military artifacts from our collection. Gene is making hangers which will be used to display Len Meier's horse bridles from his days with the U.S. Cavalry and also pegs to display several guns and muskets.

Everyone was reminded to continue to record their volunteer hours contributed to G.S.H.I. and to turn them into Dawn for entry into our database.

Saturday, July 26th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. will be our Open House Picnic at Liberty School. G.S.H.I. will provide brats, hot dogs, buns, coffee, lemonade, plates, utensils and napkins with everyone welcome for a potluck lunch. Marilyn Erickson will prepare the drinks and Marv, Gene and Michael will grill the meat. Gene and Jesse will assist with setting up the tables Friday morning at 9:00. Other Board Members are asked to help with set-up at 10:00 on Saturday morning. Pam and Dawn will assist with the registration table.

Knox Creek Heritage Center will host Kathy Lasko who is coordinating historical activities for the State of Wisconsin. Toni, Michael and Gene will attend an upcoming event to discuss future options available to our organization.

On behalf of G.S.H.I., Luann recently completed an on-line survey called Digital Heritage in Wisconsin's Small Communities which may help to generate additional opportunities for us to help network with others who are promoting history.

There will be a workday on July 19 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to work on much needed tasks around the property including caulking the Yesterday House, treating trim boards around the roof with preservative, sorting and organizing items in the Machine Shed, working on the Teacher's Garden and other tasks in preparation for the Picnic. We discussed adding another treatment of preservative to the exterior wood on the Yesterday House, Jesse may be able to procure a quantity from the manufacturer to coat the entire building at an inexpensive cost.

Clare Meier reported to the Board her efforts with the oral history project. Clare and Maryalice have discussed various approaches, but due to other priorities have not gotten very far in the process.

Next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday September 14, 2014 beginning with a potluck lunch at 12:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. with a motion by Karen B., second by Maryalice.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

Secretary

07-07-2014