

German Settlement History, Inc.
June 11, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 10:48 A.M.

Present at the meeting were Barb Failing, Jesse Rhody, Michael Meier, Pam Welch, Maryalice McHugh (via Skype), Karen Baumgartner, Marv Meier, Luann Lind and Dawn Meier. Absent and excused were Toni Meier, Karen Johnson and Gene Meier. There were no visitors in attendance.

The minutes of the April 2, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Pam made a motion, seconded by Jesse to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed with unanimous approval.

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

Pam provided a brief update of how she is capturing volunteer hours for standard events such as barn dance clean-up and set-up, meetings, workdays. Anything outside of pre-scheduled activities, each individual should be noting the hours and turning them into Pam for recording.

There was discussion about a ramp for access into the Yesterday House by people with limited mobility. Dawn provided examples and cost estimates of various portable aluminum ramping systems that could be customized for our use. Pam made a motion, with a second by Barb, to allow the 'ramp committee' (Gene, Jesse, Luann and Michael) to move forward with a solution and have a ramp in place by the annual picnic/open house utilizing up to \$2,000 for the project. Motion passed unanimously.

Pam informed the board that she has signed G.S.H.I. onto the Amazon Smile Foundation whereby anyone shopping on Amazon, can chose G.S.H.I. as the recipient of a small percent of the overall purchase. We should include something on Facebook and in the Liberty School News, letting people know that they could choose G.S.H.I. from a list of non-profit organizations.

We discussed the overall success of the 12th Annual Barn Dance. Due to more than 300 attendees, the entire haymow was very congested. Luann suggested that we could expand into the next section of the haymow which would allow us to relocate the silent auction away from the crowded entrance and allow for more sitting room. Nathan Lind will build a second entrance/exit from the back side of the haymow. New plywood flooring will also need to be installed in the new section.

Due to the issue of many unsupervised and inconsiderate children, we will eliminate the hay maze and install signs to remind everyone that they are responsible for their children's safety. We need to verify the liability coverage on the event policy insurance since each year's barn dance seems to draw larger crowds and create more safety concerns. To help occupy the kids, we discussed having organized games that could be stationed outside. This would require a couple of volunteers to plan the activities and allow the kids to have constructive fun without getting

injured or causing damage to the property. It may also be useful to have one or two individuals who monitor the yard and surrounding fields to ensure that nobody is wandering where they do not belong.

A concern was raised about the security of the donation bucket throughout the night. Whenever the registration table is not staffed, the money should be removed from the bucket or a second bucket should be swapped with the first one. Karen B. volunteered to send Gary Edinger a \$50 gas card again this year for his effort in teaching square dancing. Jesse suggested that by installing some fans in the ceiling, it would help to provide quiet airflow to the dance floor. Luann will look into purchasing and installing three fans to be hung in the haymow vents.

July 30 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. will be the Open House Picnic. Karen B. and Barb will take care of preparing the drinks. Marv, & Michael will grill the meat. Pam and Dawn will staff the registration table. Other Board members are encouraged to serve as docents and to station themselves around the property and provide relief to others where needed.

Thirty 4th graders from Rib Lake School recently toured G.S.H.I. for a successful visit of the property. We did not participate in Heritage Days in Phillips due to too many other commitments.

A big thank you goes out to Gary Failing for helping with our recent workday and barn dance preparation and clean-up. Volunteers are the backbone of every non-profit organization and we truly appreciate everyone who donates their time and talents.

The next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday September 11, 2016 beginning at 12:30 with a potluck lunch, immediately followed by the meeting.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Michael second by Barb at 12:12.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

06-26-2016