

German Settlement History, Inc.
March 19, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 1:30 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Jesse Rhody, Toni Meier, Pam Welch, Mark Nyberg, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Gene Meier, Luann Lind, Marv Meier, Maryalice McHugh (via telephone) and Dawn Meier with Karen Johnson absent and excused. Visitors included Pat Swenson, Herb & Joan Magnuson and LaVonne Meier.

Michael made a motion, seconded by Pam to approve the meeting agenda as presented with unanimous approval.

The minutes of the January 22, 2017 annual meeting were reviewed. Gene made a motion, seconded by Toni to accept the minutes as presented with unanimous approval.

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

Archival Committee consisting of Barb Failing, Pam Welch and Michael Meier have not yet met due to winter illnesses and busy schedules. As time permits, they will begin the onerous task of sorting, labeling and organizing paper files and other important documents that have been accumulating over the years.

Pam continues to record volunteer hours in *Past Perfect*. Scheduled workdays, planned events and quarterly meetings are automatically captured, but individuals need to turn in other hours that are contributed independently to G.S.H.I. as Pam will not know of those specific details.

Completing the handrail on the ramp to the Yesterday House is a priority project. Jesse, Gene and Luann will coordinate a time when they can meet to finish the work.

The Yesterday House needs some carpentry work in the upstairs before we can open to the public. The floor in the southeast corner is 'spongy', so the bed needs to be re-located strategically to avoid foot traffic over the weakest spot. The ceiling above the bed is rotting and needs to be shored up to reduce the amount of debris that accumulates on the bed. During the next scheduled workday, this project will be a priority. Also, Gene collected some sphagnum moss to fill the cracks in the logs of the house as needed.

The 'Gifted Items' report for 2016 was not prepared in time, but Toni will have it ready for the next meeting.

Pam reported calling the insurance company who holds the G.S.H.I. policy to inquire about our event insurance coverage, but was unable to speak to Terry Johnson to invite him to attend the March meeting to explain our coverage. Toni will follow-up for the next meeting.

A volunteer workday is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26 10:00 – 1:00. Everyone available to participate is encouraged to attend – and bring a friend along to help!

Specific Barn Dance Committee assignments leading up to our May 28, 2017 event were reviewed by Luann. Volunteer assignments are similar to past years. Set-up will be on Saturday May 27 @ 10:00, with an emphasis on needing many strong volunteers the first half hour to handle the heavy furniture. Prior to the set-up day, a work crew will be needed to lay the flooring in the next section of the haymow. We will relocate the pie and ice cream into the southernmost section of the haymow and move the silent auction display in the section that had been the pie area. A second entrance/exit and stairs will be built by Nathan Lind. No hay maze will be provided due to

unsupervised children causing damage to the hay. Michael and Luann will coordinate making some signs that restrict unmonitored children and reminding parents of the liability of not controlling their children's behavior.

July 29, 2017 from 11:00 – 3:00 we will host the Friends of G.S.H.I. Picnic. Pam and Dawn will initiate some advertising for the event, similar to what is done for the Barn Dance in order to generate more interest and better notify the public about this annual event.

Michael reported that Price Electric Cooperative is paying out Capital Credits that were earned 28-30 years ago and due to various circumstances, the rightful owners have been unable to be located. It is possible that in the future, 501©3 not-for-profit entities could be recipients of some of this money. Michael asked us to consider what G.S.H.I. projects or support we might identify for some of this money in the future if it became available.

Price County Heritage Days will be held in Phillips May 19 & 20 at Fred Smith's Wisconsin Concrete Park. G.S.H.I. has been asked to participate. Last year a suggestion was made to have a treadle sewing machine on display and showing how clothing and garments had been made in the past. Karen B. and Toni will coordinate the specifics.

Michael has submitted a 1920 photo of Liberty School classroom to *The Country Today* newspaper, hoping to generate a bit more regional interest in G.S.H.I. He suggested inviting author Jerry Apps to be a keynote speaker at the annual Friends of G.S.H.I. Picnic. After much discussion, this idea was tabled due to the fact that the picnic may not be a suitable venue to provide a lengthy program. Pam made the suggestion that we could sponsor a short-story writing contest in Liberty School News as a way to generate additional local stories and interest.

We will again invite the Rib Lake 4th graders to visit G.S.H.I. in early May for a field trip. Gene would be the docent for the Machine Shed and Karen B. would be the docent for the Yesterday House. Others are welcome and encouraged to assist.

There was some discussion surrounding the history of when and why the town name of 'Brannan' was changed to 'Spirit'. Following the meeting, Maryalice provided several historical articles on the subject and Dawn plans to publish them on our Facebook page to be able to share the legend with the public.

The next GSHI Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday June 11, 2017 immediately following a 12:30 potluck lunch at Liberty School.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Karen B. second by Toni at 2:35 P.M. with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier
Secretary
03-29-2017