

Spirit Historical Society, Inc.
September 9, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 1:30 p.m.

Present at the meeting were Cheryl Pierson, Michael Meier, Karen Baumgartner, Toni Meier, Pam Welch, Maryalice McHugh via Facetime, Luann Lind, Mark Nyberg, Gene Meier, Karen Johnson and Dawn Meier. Absent and excused was Jenny Mattson. Visitors included Beryl Nyberg, Darrel Lind and LaVonne Meier.

Gene made a motion, seconded by Pam to accept the meeting agenda as presented. Motion accepted with unanimous approval.

The minutes of the July 22, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second by Karen J. with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report was reviewed. A motion was made by Mark to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, second by Gene with unanimous approval.

We reviewed the list of project reports and actions. Regarding the repair of Our Yesterday House upstairs floor and ceiling, Gene contacted Jim Blomberg to see about repair options, but no other action has been taken. He will request to have Jim look at the damages to determine possible corrective actions.

Luann has been battling the carpenter ants and appears to be winning, after putting poison out several different times behind the chest in the southeast corner and in the living room at three or four places. We should consider removing additional vegetation away from the base of the house, especially on the south side which would allow better sun, air and light to help dry the building and discourage ants and rodents.

The organization's name change to Spirit Historical Society, Incorporated is official with our new address being P.O. Box 621, Ogema, WI 54459. New email address is spirithistoricalsociety@gmail.com with all email from the old address automatically being re-directed. Thanks to Maryalice's persistence and determination, our Facebook name was successfully changed to Spirit Historical Society, Inc. with all our previous photos, stories and 'friends' being maintained. Luann and Dawn are still working on updating the logo, as there have been issues with old programs and computers that were used to create the first logo.

Pam is listed as the Registered Agent through the State of Wisconsin for Spirit Historical Society, Inc. Luann wishes to transition the existing website to the new name, but is having difficulty locating the website domain of the hosting site. The next issue of Liberty School News will also have a name change to Spirit Historical Society Inc. Newsletter and Luann will assume the role of editor.

There was a discussion regarding the By Laws and Policy & Procedure with an organization. Karen B. and Maryalice informed us that in their research, the By Laws could be changed to a more simplified format, but it

is the Policy & Procedures that would go into specifics about our collections process, who is responsible for submitting annual paperwork and other details about the organization. Karen B. and Maryalice will work as a committee to draft updated By Laws and Policy & procedures documents.

Luann has continued to research the Acuity Insurance account and has put things into place to transition to Klinner Insurance in Medford beginning on November 6, 2018. Maryalice made a motion, seconded by Karen J. with unanimous approval to include Darrel and Luann Lind on the new insurance policy to be personally covered the Monday before Memorial Day through the Friday after Memorial Day which would include the set-up and take down activities of the Barn Dance.

Our annual picnic and open house held on July 28, 2018 from 11 am to 3 pm had a good turnout with lots of new folks visiting who appreciated the warm welcome, knowledgeable docents and meeting new friends. Next year, a suggestion was made that we should video tape Karen B. in the Yesterday House and Gene in the Machine Shed to better document some of the special and unique stories they share with visitors.

Luann reported on her findings regarding the estimated costs of moving the buildings to the Spirit Town Hall property. She hasn't yet received the estimate from Jonason in Athens, although they did tour the property. Scott Schuett from Merrill provided an estimate of \$6,000 plus the cost for Price Electric to move the power lines, plus any permits needed for a total of about \$8,000 for the Yesterday House alone. They suggested that the Machine Shed could be cut in half, shored up and moved to the new location, although there was no specific estimate for that job. Rebuilding a new 40 x 40 Machine Shed with no overhang is estimated to cost at least \$13,000 in supplies plus \$10,000 in labor to build it. Considering the foundation and other site preparation needed, we could expect the basic cost to be between \$24,000 and \$28,000 to rebuild a new shed.

We felt that the Spirit Town Board should initiate the process of working with a lawyer to draw up an agreement with Spirit Historical Society, Inc. possibly including a 99 year lease. Luann volunteered to be the representative for SHSI to go with Darrel to the lawyer. She will report back to the organization.

We should begin looking for contributions to help with moving costs and research possible grant opportunities. Plum Creek and Thrivent were two corporations that were mentioned who provide grants to non-profit organizations. Pam, Maryalice and Karen B. will research other opportunities that we could pursue. Donors could be included on a sign, similar to the one at Spirit Memorial Park that lists names of contributors to the project.

Luann inquired about inventorying items that will need to eventually be stored elsewhere such as books for sale and mailing envelopes. Karen J. and Cheryl volunteered to assist with inventorying the items.

It was suggested that we should print business cards with our new contact information including our annual events so that they could be passed out as needed.

Thanks to the laminating machine that was donated to the organization, Luann has been printing and laminating multiple old 8 ½ x 11 photos with captions. They are very popular at community events such as the Spirit Fair and help to advertise our organization and create additional interest.

Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday January 27, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. beginning with a potluck lunch which is open to the public followed by the meeting. This meeting will include the election of two Board Members and election of officers. Maryalice & Mark are this year's nominating committee and will present the names for the annual election to Pam later this fall to be included on the ballots and sent to our members prior to the meeting.

Meeting adjourned with a motion by Karen B. second by Gene at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Meier

Secretary

12-08-2018