

Spirit Historical Society, Inc.
January 30, 2021 Annual Board Meeting Minutes

***Due to the global pandemic that began in March, 2020 this meeting was held via the internet using the platform 'Zoom' and it was the first official meeting since the January 26, 2020 annual meeting.**

The meeting was called to order by President Luann Lind at 3:04 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Maryalice McHugh, Cheryl Pearson, Pam Welch, Karen Baumgartner, Mark Nyberg, JaNelle Nelson Luann Lind, and Dawn Meier. Jenny Mattson was absent. Guests included Ann Marie Fries and Johanna Holliday with everyone given a chance to introduce themselves to the group. Due to the limitations with technology, this meeting was not made available to a broader audience, although Luann accessed the virtual meeting at the Spirit Town Hall for anyone that chose to meet in person.

The minutes of the January 26, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Maryalice made a motion, seconded by Karen to accept the minutes following the addition of the meeting location at the top of the document. This update was accepted with unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report had been sent earlier via email to each of the Board Members for review. Maryalice moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Karen with unanimous approval.

Luann suggested that an audit of the Treasurer's books should be performed. Pam and JaNelle will coordinate the details this year and report the findings at a later meeting.

The first order of old business was an update from Luann who reported many positive responses from the recent newsletters that were published. Due to the social distancing requirements caused by the global pandemic, members and friends of the organization respond well and appreciate receiving the newsletter as a way to stay connected. Donations and book orders increase each time a newsletter is published. The spring, 2021 edition will focus on the books that we have for sale. Luann is always seeking articles and topic ideas for upcoming newsletters.

Volunteer hours continue to be tracked and recorded into the *Past Perfect* database by Pam. Volunteer contributions are important to be documented as they are needed when submitting a grant funding request.

Maryalice reminded us of the positive public engagement created by the submission of photos onto our Facebook page. Posting historical photographs from our archives on a regular basis has spurred a wide base of support and interest from people all across the world and opened a dialogue amongst historians, genealogists and people with roots to the Spirit area. We also see

value in continuing our S.H.S.I. website as another way for people to learn about us and to network with those that may not already be aware of the organization.

Our older model copy machine which we no longer had a use for was donated to one of Pam's clients and has been put into service rather than being junked.

Luann has multiple cases of white 9 x 12 mailing envelopes with our obsolete return address that are available for repurpose to anyone that requests them. These were printed when we previously used envelopes to mail the newsletter. With the implementation of the bulk mailing permit for the newsletter, we can no longer use envelopes but are required to fold in half and secure with stickers each newsletter.

S.H.S.I. items that have not yet been vacated from the former Liberty School property include the flag pole, interpretive sign on the outside of the machine shed, lots of large and heavy items inside the machine shed, cases of new books that are stored in the red shed. New owners of the property: Bryan and Nancy Bowen have been more than gracious about us continuing to store our items on their private property and we need to work toward removing them in 2021. Currently the rest of our archives are either being stored at Darrel and Luann Lind's or Pam Welch/Dawn Meier's property. The global pandemic beginning in early 2020 has all but stopped our transition to the new location and we are hopeful that by spring/summer of 2021 the virus may subside, allowing us to move forward with sorting and properly displaying items.

As we move into spring, it will be important to begin cleaning and preparing the *Yesterday House* to set up display items and to return the building to a museum available for guests. We would like to have the ability to rotate our displays, since a large amount of our collections have never been made available for viewing. Ann Marie Fries has graciously donated the original Spirit Post Office that was salvaged many years ago and has been in her possession waiting for the right time to share it for public viewing. Approximately 4 foot square, this may be able to be affixed to the wall and accompanied with other unique post office items from this era.

After the contracted building movers set the *Yesterday House* on the new foundation in back of the Spirit Town Hall, initial yardwork was performed in 2020. A work crew picked rocks that were left behind from excavating the foundation. Luann and Darrel leveled the dirt and added top soil to prepare the ground for seeding in spring 2021. The landscaping committee consisting of JaNelle, Luann and LaVonne Meier will coordinate flower planting during 2021.

Luann reminded us about the previous project proposal to have a portable sign made that announces the annual Barn Dance that could be placed along Highway 86 between the two driveways at the Spirit Town Hall. The durable sign would be approximately 24 x 24 and self-standing with generic details about the event that could be displayed several weeks ahead of the dance. Pam made a motion, seconded by Maryalice for Luann to develop the design and order the sign from a contractor in Ogema. Motion passed unanimously.

We discussed the need to move forward with plans to develop a sign that acknowledges the donors who submitted funds for the relocation of the *Yesterday House*. Luann will work with S&A Trophy in Medford to develop a plaque using a black background and white etched letters that lists those people to be recognized. Due to possible late additions or omissions, we felt it was important to allow for space at the bottom to expand the list as needed. Once drafted, Luann will email the Board a mock-up of the design.

New Business

The nominating committee consisting of Luann and JaNelle presented the new board members Johanna Holliday and Ann Marie Fries for consideration to fill vacant seats created by the term end of Pam Welch and the vacancy left by Gene Meier. Due to the social distance recommendations due to the pandemic, Pam who has been monitoring the S.H.S.I. post office box opened and counted the ballots that were received for this election. We received 16 ballots with unanimous count for Ann Marie and Johanna to fill the two open seats on the Board of Directors. Since there were no write-in votes or discrepancies to the total ballots that were returned, Maryalice made a motion to accept the results of the election with a second by Dawn to elect Ann Marie Fries and Johanna Holliday each to a five year term. The motion received unanimous approval.

For next year, the nominating committee will be Karen and Dawn with Maryalice and Mark coming to the end of their five year terms.

Luann read a thank you letter that we received from the Spirit, Hill, Ogema 4-H Fair for the use of our canopy tent at the Spirit Fair in 2019. Because of the pandemic, the fair was held virtually in 2020.

Luann asked for updated photos of each of the Board Members to be included on the website and other publications. She also reviewed each of our contact specifics including address, phone number and email address. Luann will email the updated document to Board Members.

Plans for hosting events (Barn Dance and Picnic/Open House) in 2021 were tabled until the next meeting when we can better gauge the health threats with the pandemic.

The next S.H.S.I. Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday March 28, 2021 and is expected to be held virtually using the 'Zoom' platform.

Meeting adjourned with motion by Pam, seconded by Mark with unanimous approval at 3:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Meier
Secretary
01-30-2021

Spirit Historical Society, Inc.
January 30, 2021 Election for Officers to the Board of Directors

Immediately following the annual meeting of the S.H.S.I. the Board of Directors met to elect officers to the Executive Committee:

Maryalice made a motion to nominate Luann Lind as President. With no further nominations brought forward, Mark made a motion, seconded by JaNelle to cast a unanimous ballot for Luann Lind to serve as S.H.S.I. President for a one year term.

Maryalice made a motion to nominate Karen Baumgartner as Vice President. With no further nominations brought forward, Mark made a motion, seconded by JaNelle to cast a unanimous ballot for Karen Baumgartner to serve as S.H.S.I. Vice President for a one year term.

Mark made a motion to nominate Dawn Meier as Secretary. With no further nominations brought forward, Karen made a motion, seconded by Maryalice to cast a unanimous ballot for Dawn Meier to serve as S.H.S.I. Secretary for a one year term.

With Pam Welch ending her term on the Board of Directors, the position of Treasurer was also being vacated. With multiple attempts to nominate someone and each person declining, we seemed to reach an impasse. Dawn suggested that she could assume the role of Treasurer – with strong guidance and support from Pam.

The Bylaws were reviewed to confirm that the Treasurer could be an ex officio member who has a voice but no vote on the Board. Considering this angle, it seemed that Dawn and Pam could collaborate the roles of the Treasurer with Dawn serving as the official officer until sometime in the future when a new Treasurer can be trained. JaNelle made a motion which was seconded by Karen to rescind the original nomination electing Dawn as Secretary. Maryalice then made a motion to nominate Dawn as Treasurer seconded by Mark and cast a unanimous ballot for Dawn Meier as S.H.S.I. Treasurer for a one year term.

Karen made a motion with a second by Dawn to nominate Maryalice McHugh as Secretary. With no further nominations brought forward, Mark made a motion, seconded by JaNelle to cast a unanimous ballot for Maryalice McHugh to be S.H.S.I. Secretary for a one year term

Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting for the Election of Officers of the S.H.S.I. Board of Directors, with a second by Cheryl with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Meier, Secretary
01-30-2021