

**Spirit Historical Society, Inc.**  
**March 28, 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 3:06 P.M.

Present at the meeting were Maryalice McHugh, Anne Marie Fries, Cheryl Pierson, Karen Baumgartner, Mark Nyberg, JaNelle Nelson, Luann Lind, and Dawn Meier. Johanna Holliday and Jenny Mattson were absent. Guests: John Berg.

The Agenda was reviewed and Dawn made a motion to approve, seconded by Maryalice, and was accepted by unanimous approval.

The minutes of the January 30, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Cheryl Pierson noted that her last name was misspelled and has been corrected. Mark made a motion, seconded by Cheryl to accept the minutes following the correction of Cheryl's name. 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. A discussion was had about the Fixed Assets and why certain items were included. Many items have been a carryover for many years and Pam Welch, as outgoing Treasurer, will work with Dawn, as current Treasurer, to review these line items, consolidate, combine or remove line items to make the Balance Sheet easier to understand and also make any future transitions to new Treasurers easier. It was also determined that the line items for Books under Fixed Assets would be removed as these were sold during the Meier sale of. Maryalice moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Mark with unanimous approval.

Pam and JaNelle have yet to coordinate an audit of the books and will report the findings at a later meeting.

John Berg from Price County Historical Society presented an opportunity to participate in a pilot program with the Forest History Association of Wisconsin to create a series of banners. I have attached a copy of the detailed information to the minutes (email). We are asked to select 6 pictures that represent our area of Price County and to prioritize them in order of what we think is the most important to the least important and submit them by April 30, 2021 to John. The content should be towards forestry, both general and specific in the area of forest products, forest industry, forest communities, individuals impacting the forest, folklore of the forest or forest commerce. Johanna had suggested the Meier Oak Tree (described in a book *Every Root an Anchor: Wisconsin's Famous and Historic Trees*) and Dawn suggested the Christmas tree farms in the area. Dawn, Luan and Mark will work on this project.

## OLD BUSINESS

Thank you to Dawn and Pam for getting our name changed with the State for our Tax Exemption, with the IRS, the Post Office and Amazon Smile.

Volunteer hours continue to be tracked and recorded into the *Past Perfect* database by Dawn. 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. There is also a new Facebook group Swedes of Ogema which overlaps with many of our founding families in Spirit.

Luann is getting ready to send out our next Newsletter. She is always looking for new stories for publication so please forward anything you come across to her. JaNelle and Cheryl will help her fold and sticker the Newsletter for mailing.

April 21, 2021 at 2:00 has been picked to clean the Yesterday House. The house needs to be vacuumed and the floors washed along with the windows. The curtains need washing. Anyone who can help, even if just for a couple of hours, are welcome. Bring old rags, pails and any cleaning supplies you can.

Luann presented a copy of a permanent sign to be made for the Barn Dance that can be place in front of the Town Hall on Hwy 86. It was suggested that Spirit Historical Society's be added above the Annual Barn Dance line. All agreed and approved with this modification.

Luann presented the Board a mock-up of the design for the donations given to move the Yesterday House. The Board suggested that for the memorials and honorariums just list the names being honored and not who made the donation. We will use the old sign that is currently in front of the Liberty School which is 2' x 3' and then we would have 3 12" x 24" panels with the names of the donors and Memorials/Honorariums. There would be room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> panel for additional names if needed. Pam was able to get clarification on the Brietzke entry and Maryalice forwarded that information to Luann via email.

In addition to the books we currently sell, it was suggested if we should give information in our Newsletters about other authors in the Spirit area. The Board did not feel it was appropriate to list those on the page with the books we sell, however, the Board did feel that an article in the Newsletter about area authors and how to contact them would be a good idea.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

In addition to John Berg's presentation at the beginning of the meeting, we discussed building access to the Yesterday House. A ramp into the house as well as a walkway from the parking lot will be needed. A motion was made by Maryalice to have Nathan Lind draw up some plans on how best to accomplish this and to also take into consideration the future Machine Shed building so that the walkway(s) and ramp can be integrated with that building and look good. Mark seconded the motion. Luann also reviewed the lease agreement with the Town of Spirit to verify what restrictions, if any, we had. She will email the plans to all of the Board when available and will also present them to the Town Board as a courtesy, so they are aware of our plans.

After much discussion it was decided that SHSI would not sponsor the annual Barn Dance Memorial Day weekend, and hope to be able to do so in the Fall.

Plans for the July picnic will be decided at our June, 2021 meeting.

The next S.H.S.I. Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 27, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. CDT and is expected to be held virtually using the 'Zoom' platform.

Meeting adjourned with motion by JaNelle, seconded by Karen with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maryalice McHugh  
Secretary  
March 28, 2021