

**`Spirit Historical Society, Inc.  
June 25, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes**

**(This meeting was available on Google Meet as well as in person at the Spirit Town Hall)**

The meeting was called to order by President Dawn Meier at 2:00 p.m. CDT

Present at the meeting were Maryalice McHugh, Karen Baumgartner, Luann Lind, Dawn Meier, Pam Welch, JaNelle Nelson and Anne Marie Fries.

Absent: Mark Nyberg, Dean Gilge, Johanna Holliday and Cheryl Pierson

Guest: Vanessa Reyes

A Motion was made by Pam to accept the proposed Agenda and seconded by JaNelle. It was accepted by unanimous approval.

The minutes of the March 18, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Several corrections were noted and a Motion was made by Pam to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by Karen, and was accepted by unanimous approval.

The Treasurer's report had been sent earlier via email. Pam discussed the report and answered any questions. It was noted that the Barn Dance netted \$949. A Motion was made by JaNelle to accept the Report, seconded by Anne Marie, and was accepted by unanimous approval.

## **REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **A. YESTERDAY HOUSE RAMP/WALKWAY**

Dean is out of town so was not able to present an update on the progress. Luann reported that Nathan Lind will be completing this project before the 4H Fair in order to provide safer access from the parking lot into the building. Now with two separate buildings, we need to provide accessible and easy flow of foot traffic from the parking lot to both buildings without adding barriers. Whatever is built for access into one building should make it appear that it naturally flows for both buildings without causing access issues for folks. The new ramp will also incorporate direct access to the Machine Shed from the east end of the Yesterday House. JaNelle also noted that she and Tim have the material needed to adjust the building relocation donor sign by the back door to make it more stable. A discussion was had and this will also be completed by the 4H Fair

### **B. SPRING WORKDAY**

This was a great success this year. Many people participated and helped to ready the museum for tours of the building. Thank you to Pam for providing lunch.

### **C. MACHINE SHED UPDATE**

The area designated for the Machine Shed has been marked off and prepared for concrete. Luann reported that the concrete should be poured this week. It needs to cure for 2 weeks before construction can begin. Mark had questioned the height of the walls of the building. Luann reported that the shed walls will be 8' rather than 10' as originally quoted, which will decrease the cost of the building.

### **D. PRIVATE TOURS OF THE YESTERDAY HOUSE**

Linda Marshall and Jennifer Saarkinen were asked if they would be willing to give private tours. Neither committed but did express an interest. Maryalice suggested that we record Karen giving a tour which would

include questions and answers from the guests. It would be both informative to prospective tour guides and also available to use on social media. It was also noted that we could use funds designated for Oral History for this recording. Pam will coordinate a date for the session after the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS**

### **A. BARN DANCE**

Luann presented a list of the items donated to the chance drawing fundraiser in the order of how popular they were. Mann Made's 5 gallon tub of ice cream received the most entries. It was interesting to see which items received the most ticket chances. Some Board members said they would prefer to give a monetary donation instead of gathering a gift basket of other items for future events. Those funds would be categorized with the Chances sold. This topic was tabled until March 2024 meeting when we will again discuss the specifics.

Pam noted that the funds received were less than prior years when we did a silent auction but because the chance drawing was far less work setting things up and distributing at the close of the event, this method seemed like a good compromise. It was also suggested that we alter the advertisement of the event as a Community Barn Dance to benefit Spirit Historical Society to make it clearer to the public as many people would not know what SHSI stands for.

JaNelle suggested that we may want to consider a live auction and wondered if that might work. A discussion was had. No decision was made.

For the refreshments, 600 cookies were made and served with bowls of ice cream. We could probably cut back on that quantity since there was 8 dozen left at the end of the night. Root Beer Floats were suggested as a possibility for next year, but it was noted that they create a very sticky mess, mainly on the floor. Pam suggested that we stick with the cookies and Vanilla ice cream next year but that we should offer squeeze containers of chocolate, strawberry and caramel toppings.

We also need to consider participating in other community events such as the Ogema Christmas Tree Festival, Prentice Progress Days, of other Tomahawk, Rib Lake and Phillips events. We could sell Brats, Cheese Curds, or Root Beer Floats as a fundraiser. We will reach out to Mark for his thoughts on the Christmas Tree Festival.

The length of the Barn Dance was questioned as the midnight end time is too late for most Board Members. Luann wants to keep the midnight time and is ok with Board Members not being there at the end to clean up. It was also suggested that the Flag Raising start at 7:00 pm rather than 8:00 since several groups of people left early and missed out on the flag presentation and refreshments. There was much discussion, and it was suggested to consider a compromise at 7:30. This was tabled to a future meeting.

Finally, it was noted that we need to have some signage or flags for when we have an Open House and especially on Memorial Day upon return from the cemetery as Karen had very few visitors that stopped in that day. We would like to draw attention to the Yesterday House and be open to the public whenever other events are occurring. JaNelle volunteered to make signs next year to let the community know we are doing tours after the ceremony at the cemetery.

### **B. SKELETON KEY LOCKBOX**

This will be on a post near the Yesterday House. Luann will install and give Board Members a key if requested.

### **C. INSTALLATION OF MESH AROUND YESTERDAY HOUSE BASE**

Luann has the material ready and hopes to have this completed in the next couple of weeks.

### **D. 4H FAIR, AUGUST 12**

Board Members should turn in all receipts for products purchased for the 4HFair luncheon to Pam for reimbursement and then she will turn in one receipt to the Fair Board for reimbursement (this excludes the Cheese Curds).

- JaNelle and Tim will be the Grill Masters. They will also purchase brats and hot dogs.
- Pam and Dawn will get the buns and condiments.
- Cheryl and JaNelle will bring fruit salad.
- Karen, Anne Marie, JaNelle and Pam & Dawn will prepare dessert bars.

#### **E. WINDOWS MAINTENANCE**

This was tabled for our next meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Just a reminder that we have one open seat on the Board that can be filled at any time.

#### **PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

Our next meeting will be on Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 2:00 pm CDT at the Spirit Town Hall and also available on Google Meet.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:36 pm CDT.

Respectfully submitted.

Maryalice McHugh, Secretary