



Walsh County Historic Preservation Commission held a meeting on 1-18-2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Aggie Alumni Room, Park River Area High School, 704 5th St W, Park River, ND 58270 **(IN PERSON!!!)**

Attending: Agatha Frisby, Bergit Sobak, Dennis Markusen, Dick Geiger, Shannon Brazil, Sarah Johnston, Tracy Laaveg, coordinator.

Absent: Jon McMillan

Guests: Denise Bata, Gary Seboe

Regular Meeting:

The minutes from the 10-19-22 regular meeting were approved on a motion from Shannon seconded by Dennis. Financial report was reviewed and approved on a motion from Sarah and seconded by Bergit. There is currently \$291.13 in the checkbook.

2021-22 Grant - \$1010.50 remains unclaimed at the present time. Tracy will continue to work on reimbursement requests.

2022-23 Grant – no reimbursements submitted yet.

Projects:

Administration: Tracy continues to administer and complete the work under the existing grants. Members are encouraged to submit in kind hours. Narrative reports for 2020-21 and 2021-22 grant years were read and approved with corrections. They will be submitted to SHPO.

Brochures: Brochures are available upon request and continue to be distributed. We do have 2200 on hand with ND Tourism for the rack program and several hundred are available through WCHPC and PCHPC. There are no plans to reprint at the moment.

Geocaching: Chad Thorvilson continues to maintain and service the existing Caches. Cache listings were reviewed, and questions were posed regarding Garfield cemetery. Tracy will continue to work with Chad to get new sites added.

Member Ed: Shannon reported that we won the award for best commercial booth and will get out booth space for free next year. She thanked those who were able to help out, and will secure a photo to be used for next year’s annual report.



Discussions were held regarding an upcoming event to collect memories and historical items from the Sauter School in Southwest Walsh County. This even will be held at Pioneer Plaza in Brocket, and members will assist in promoting and supplying snacks for an open house to be held in 4-6 weeks.

Agatha gave an update on the Arts across the prairie project. They are in the process of soliciting ideas from artisans for an art installation to showcase the Dahlen eskers. More information will be coming in the future. We will also seek to place a geocache site at the location.

Oral History Project: We reviewed the recap and discussed potential interviews and members will continue to work on this. Recap to date is attached. List of potential interviewees was considered. Agatha's mother has also volunteered to assist with completing interviews. Members were encouraged to spread the word and remind folks that there is a stipend available for participating in this project.

Website: the website project is complete. Agatha is the contact person locally charged with adding information to the site. Members were encouraged to visit the website and contact Agatha with any additional information that should be added or updated.

Membership: Members who are up for renewal in 2022 are Agatha, Dennis, Tracy, and Shannon. Guests were encouraged to complete resume forms and prepare a letter of interest if interested in joining the group.

Strategic planning: Strategic planning has been tentatively scheduled for March 7, 2023. We will find a location in Park River and light meal will be served. Tracy will verify the start time after consulting with Kari Helgoe, the extension agent from Pembina County.

New business:

Homme Dam Storm Shelter: Agatha explained the request for FEMA to remove the schoolhouse at the Homme Dam recreation area and construct a storm shelter. After discussion, it was moved and seconded that we advise FEMA to consider a mitigation condition that if the schoolhouse that is located on the property (which was moved to the site from Dundee township in 1960) was structurally sound, that it be moved to the Northeast ND Pioneer Association site in Park River. Motion made by Tracy, seconded by Shannon, Motion carried.



2023-25 Grant: Grant application was reviewed, and changes and corrections were made. Motion was made by Dennis, seconded by Sarah to approve the grant application with the changes as discussed. Motion carried. Grant will be submitted to the Walsh County Commission by February 2 for consideration at the February 7 meeting. Meeting will be held at 5:30 at the courthouse in Grafton.

North Trinity: Agatha was contacted by a citizen who indicated that there was a possibility that members wanted to tear down the church due to the condition of the roof. Sarah and Agatha have made some attempts, and Shannon will assist in contacting key board members to explore the possibility of assisting with grant applications for necessary repairs.

St. Joseph's Chapel: Shannon mentioned that she had been contacted by John Bishop regarding potentially moving St. Joseph's Chapel from his property (near the Red River) to the grounds of the Walsh County Museum in Minto. Contact will be made with SHPO to determine the correct process to accomplish this intent.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 19th at 7 pm in person. Location TBD
Strategic Planning: Tuesday, March 7 in person. Location TBD in Park River. Time TBD (between 5-6 pm start time)

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Laaveg, Coordinator