

Minutes of Walsh County Historical Society

December 7, 2022

Meeting was called to order by President Daryl Campbell. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Members present: Daryl Campbell, Julie Campbell, Shannon Brazil, Tracy Laaveg, John Gudajtes, Joe Koehmsted, Mike Farder, Betty Gerszewski, Chris Misialek, Robert Zidon, Linda Restemayer, Shirley Burns, Wally Ebertowski, Lynelle Popowski and Lucas Mondry.

Minutes were distributed and approved with a motion by Chris and 2nd by Linda. Treasurer's report was distributed and approved with a motion by Linda and 2nd by Joe. As of November 30, 2022, there is \$13,586.30 in checking, \$51,535.25 in savings, and 3 cds with balances of \$18,946.32 (Bremer), \$7,293.40 (Choice) and \$9,830.90 (First United).

Heritage Village update was given:

- Library: floor, sheetrock, paint, carpet have been installed. shelving from true value is available and will be installed. Books are being stored in various buildings at the village, and will be collected and stored in the library when it is completed.
- Farmers Market – went well
- Lanstad church: Boone family grant was received, and will be used to replace the front doors. Assembly of God church donated Roger's organ. It was been installed and is working. We are looking for a donor to replace the carpeting. The goal is to have services in the church in the future
- Wifi – working on getting that installed
- Storage garage – new overhead door installed

Minto Museum update was given:

- Chili contest went well, entries were down due to bad weather, but 11 entries competed.
- Deca group from the school is working on helping to restore the fossil exhibit. The State Historical Society is working on re-habbing some exhibits and cleaning the fossils.
- School kids are making new labels and shelves and assisting on updates in the museum.
- New displays are going up, including the Ann & Laurie dress shop on the 2nd floor.
- The cook car needed supports to stabilize the floor. These repairs were completed.
- The trapper's cabin is set to get new shakes this spring.
- Basement – Shannon is working on a grant to get the tucking completed and would like to install more displays in the basement in the future.
- Henry Duray is working on new logs for the Slominski cabin (e.g., drying, etc.)

Old Business:

- Website is up and running. A short demonstration was given. Website address is www.walshcountyhistory.com

- Meeting dates for 2023 – will be the 3rd Tuesday in the 1st month of each quarter: January 17 (in Grafton), April 18 (in Minto), July 18 (in Grafton) and October 17 (in Minto) at 7 pm.
- Newsletter: Verna and June Selseth will work on the newsletter. Julie prepared a new membership sheet and will make sure that gets to Verna, June, or Chris. Chris will be in touch with June about getting the newsletter done.
- Membership list – Julie has a working list and there is a list that is used for newsletters. This will be updated.
- Grants – we are still waiting for the grant from the County
- Inventory/ Collections Management software: committee was formed but has not met. Tracy will be in touch with SHPO to address concerns about valuable/ priceless items and sharing the identity and location of these items to the public.
- Financial software: Tracy will research and look into possible options and discuss with Julie
- Walsh County Fair update: booth was well received and won the commercial exhibit award. Prize is a free booth rental for next year's fair. Intent is to continue the booth to raise awareness and help find new members/ volunteers
- Talking trails: Shirley reported that the Rendezvous Region Tourism Council is looking at this project again, but has re-organized and needs more time to get this project off the ground. They will need sponsors in the future.
- Brochures: discussion regarding brochures was tabled.

New Business:

- Fundraising:
 - Golf Tournament: Golf Tournament was discussed. Jon K and Sandy will be consulted to see whether there is interest in continuing the tournament.
 - Selling items: discussion was held regarding whether we should sell commemorative items. Discussion was held regarding selling the Walsh heritage books. Books are being sold for \$20 each. Items were once sold by Minto. Additional discussion will be held after determining what options are available on the website.
- Volunteers: discussed the need to organize and publicize for volunteers. Lynelle volunteered to organize the volunteers. Grafton Chamber will be running a promotion for Volunteer month. We need to make a list of volunteer opportunities.
- Walsh Historical Society: concern about where the older records are located. Daryl indicated there were some records at Heritage Village. Records will be reviewed.
- Other new business: Discussed the Veteran's memorial in Grafton. It has stalled due to COVID and the head of the committee moved away. Discussion was tabled. Daryl expressed that the committee needs to get re-organized.

Meeting adjourned.