

Minutes of Walsh County Historical Society

August 10, 2023

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 Koehmstedt, Betty Gerszewski, Chris Misialek, Robert Zidon, Linda Restemayer, Wally Ebertowski, Larry Gunderson, Josh Miskavige, Lucas Mondry, June Selseth, Dexter Sitzer, Steve Novak, Keith Shutt, Susan Barclay and Patricia Kobloe.

Minutes from the April 2023 meeting were distributed and approved as written. Treasurer's report was distributed and approved. As of July 31, 2023, there is \$ 21,488.02 in checking, \$ 51,595.14 in savings, and 3 cds with balances of \$ 18,979.80 (Bremer), \$ 7,304.33 (Choice) and \$ 9,968.04 (First United).

Officer appointments were discussed. Daryl and Julie have indicated they would like to resign, as they are so invested in the Heritage Village board. With Verna's death, Julie has assumed the treasurer duties of both Heritage and the main board. She feels that is a conflict of interest. IN addition, as Julie and Daryl are gone for much of the winter, they would like resign their positions. Tracy has also indicated that she would like to give up her position as secretary due to other demands from her work. After discussion, it was determined that members will look for replacements and will bring potential names to the October minutes. In the meantime, the board members will provide a list of their job duties and have that available for members.

Heritage Village update was given:

- Library: shelving from True Value is being installed and filled with books and other items from other buildings.
- Outside activities - Farmers Market has been going well. Police and Fire department's National Night out went very well. Assembly of God will have a gathering this weekend.
- Landstad church: Front doors have been installed, cedar siding has been ordered.
- Wifi – working on getting that installed
- Deck – it is installed and looks great. Needs paint.

Minto Museum update was given:

- Changes include updates to LED lights throughout the building, painting and new displays have gone up, including the fossils display and the Laurie & Ann/ Squire Shop display.
- The trappers cabin needs a new roof
- Gym – needs siding. Shannon has 2 bids and is waiting on the 3rd. Estimated cost will be \$56,000. All 3 contractors have indicated they can complete the work this spring.
- Grants – the grant writer that was found moved away, so the hunt is on to find a new grant writer.
- Attendance has been good. Shannon is noticing a lot of new people with no ties to the area. She believes the website is the reason.
- Heritage Village brochures are needed in Minto.

Old Business:

- Membership/ Newsletter: The executive committee will work on updating the list. Calls will be made to Morgan printing and the vo-tech.
- Grants – we are still waiting for the grant from the County – need a new grant writer. Daryl met with the commissioners and they seemed hesitant to give more since we have a large balance in the bank. Julie pointed out that we have not distributed the tax levy money for the last 2 years.
- Inventory/ Collections Management software: committee was formed but has not met. Tracy did additional inquiry and there is an ability to not make the entire collection available to the public if we utilize a collections management system. Discussion was tabled, as Minto does have a collections inventory, but it is not known if such an inventory exists at heritage village.
- Financial software: discussion continued to be tabled due to potential new treasurer.
- Talking trails – discussion was not removed from the table
- Brochures – Heritage Village needs new brochures printed. Minto Museum has several brochures, but they need a sticker to update the website address.
- Fundraising & selling items – previously tabled and not removed from the table
- Volunteer updates – not removed from the table. Inquiry needs to be done to determine how the website can be used to assist with finding volunteers
- Old records – Tracy and Daryl will meet at Heritage Village to review what records are there/ available.
- Veteran’s memorial – Daryl is the only remaining member of the active board. He needs assistance and asked members to make referrals for others who might be willing to assist with this project.
- SOAR – interns – brief discussion was held. Further inquiry is needed.
- Walsh County Fair update: members were updated on the plans to have a booth again. Further discussion will be held at the October meeting.

New Business:

- Commissioners meeting update – Daryl updated the group on the meeting with the commissioners. The “grant” is usually distributed in the fall, so it is likely that this will be given again. Due to the prior concerns about the large balances in the accounts, it was moved that we make distributions of \$15,000 each to Heritage Village and Minto Museum. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on **October 12 at 7 pm** at Heritage Village. Meeting adjourned.