

Minutes of Walsh County Historical Society

Annual Meeting – Minto Community Center

January 11, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Shannon Brazil. Opened with the group reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present included: Dennis Markusen, Larry Gunderson, Shannon Brazil, Michael Farder, June Selseth, Josh Miskavige, Wally Ebertowski, Joe Koehmstedt, Robert Gruchala, Chris Misialek, Beaver “Steve” Novak, Mitch Misialek, & Patrice Kobel.

Minutes from the October 12, 2023, meeting were distributed and approved (on a motion by Chris Misialek, seconded by Mike Farder) as written. Treasurer’s Report was distributed and approved (on a motion by Beaver Novak & seconded by Josh Miskavige). As of December 31, 2023, there is \$5,249.50 in checking, \$36,637.27 in Savings, and 3 CDs with balances of \$19,079.02 (Bremer – matures 5-19-24), \$7304.33 (Choice – matures 2-25-24), \$9,949.23 (First United – matures 3-26-25).

In Old Business, we received a report from the Heritage Village in Grafton, & the Minto Museum in Minto.

HERITAGE VILLAGE REPORT: Larry Gunderson gave a report summarizing the projects worked on in 2023. They included: Rebuilding Framework around the main door entrance to Lanstad Church, rebuilding the front decks on Main Street in the Village, new slab in front of the village post office, reconstruction & shingling of “Uncle Sig’s Jugville water tower, and construction of 250 feet of Railroad Track for a Model Train donated to the Village, by Ed Mathison (from Jamestown). This train will be displayed in the upper level of the Barn Hayloft located on Village property. Larry also discussed the status of the Jon McMillan Native American Artifact collection. Due to cold weather and contractor & material shortages, no permanent construction was done in the fall of 2023. There are several obstacles that were encountered and until they are worked out, the project for this display is on hold.

MINTO MUSEUM REPORT: Shannon Brazil gave a report highlighting projects the Minto Museum has undertaken this past year. They include: a display of an 1897 vintage Shotgun recently acquired by the Museum from the Dale family who homesteaded south of Fordville in the late 1800’s. This shotgun was originally owned by Theodore Dale. Cedar shakes will be installed on the Trappers cabin this summer, with labor being donated by a local carpenter who has been a strong supporter of the Museum. Upcoming projects include the re-shingling & re-siding of the Gym. Bids are due next week for this project. The Museum board is also pursuing funding for the restoration of the Slominski cabin, as some of the logs have deteriorated to a point where they need to be renovated.

WCHS ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

Shannon gave a brief update on the Status of the Societies' Annual Newsletter. Shannon will gather information from Minto Museum & contact Darryl Campbell & Larry Gunderson from the Heritage Village to obtain material for the 2024 newsletter. Plans are to have it ready to print & be mailed out in February or March of 2024.

WALSH COUNTY GRANT

In other old business, Dennis Markusen gave a short update the Society had not received the \$5000 Grant from Walsh County Commission in 2023. The society has contacted the Commission and they have sent us a check in the amount of \$5,000 which will be distributed in equal amounts to the Heritage Village & the Minto Museum at our Spring Quarterly meeting.

In New Business:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chris Misialek presented the Nominating report for new officers in the coming term. Nominated for :

- President – Steve “Beaver” Novak (1 year term)
- Vice President – Shannon Brazil (1 year term)
- Secretary – Tracy Laaveg (1 year term)
- Treasurer – Larry Gunderson – (3-year term)
- Board Member – Wally Ebertowski – (3-year term)
- Board Member – Larry Gunderson – (3-year term)
- Board Member – Dennis Markusen – (3 - year term)

Chris made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of officers as presented. Seconded by June Selseth. The motion carried.

ANNUAL REPORT to SECRETARY OF STATE

Shannon Brazil informed the group that the Annual Report for the WCHS is due to be filed with the Secretary of State by Feb. 1, 2024. Beaver Novak moved & Larry Gunderson seconded the motion to direct our secretary to file this report. Motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for this coming Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Heritage Village in Grafton.

Meeting adjourned.

Tracy Laaveg, Secretary