

Minutes of Walsh County Historical Society

July 18, 2024

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Shannon Brazil. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Attending: Mary Kovarik, Dennis Markusen, Wally Ebertowski, Larry Gunderson, Tracy Laaveg, Joe Koehmstadt, Betty Gerszewski, Michael Farder.

Minutes from the April 2024 meeting were distributed and corrected. Motion by Larry, second my Mike to approve as corrected. Motion carried

Treasurer's report was distributed and approved. Current balance in checking is \$7,088.91, Savings and CD balances remain mostly unchanged from last meeting. Discussion was held regarding costs incurred for auditing and accounting. Consensus was to switch to HMR accountants as their estimate was approximately ½ of that charged by Legacy CPA. Larry will verify the audit covers the Historical society and both the museum financials. This report was approved on a motion by Tracy and second by Betty. Motion carried.

Heritage Village update was given:

- Elton Ringsack display has been installed at the Heritage Center. His family has viewed and expressed satisfaction with the end display.
- Railroad: Installation is in process; the train was running briefly.
- A wheelchair lift was donated from the Developmental Center. Work has been discussed to fit it to the barn.
- The Carousel needs some repairs. It has been sponsored most nights of the farmers market by area groups. The lights have been repaired, but the motor needs work.
- Library: shelving is in place and books are being shelved.
- Uncle Sig's clocks are on site. They need someone to build a display for them. They have the location picked out.

Minto Museum update was given:

- Gym roof and siding are being replaced now
- They are exploring the possibility of installing an elevator to utilize the basement and 3rd floor as display areas. They are working with engineers to explore options.
- The Slominski cabin needs approximately 5 logs repaired or replaced. Estimated cost is approximately \$62,000. The Slominski family has expressed interest in helping to fund the repairs.
- Museum Alive is scheduled for Sunday, June 22, 2025 (note change from date reported last meeting). Shannon is working with area groups to put

together displays. Walsh County Historic Preservation will sponsor a session on the architecture of the museum building. PNA will be sponsoring a fashion show. She is also considering a float for the parade.

Website Update: Mary has the information on the old website and will forward to TellWell to get that shut down or establish a redirect to the new website. Tracy will contact TellWell to add an events and sign up feature to the existing website.

Fundraising – discussion was held regarding hiring a grant writer. Discussion was tabled until more people were present. Discussion was also held to consider developing a fundraising and events committee.

Events: - The Walsh County Fair will be held October 16-19 in Park River. A sign up sheet was sent around to volunteer for working on October 17-18. This will be circulated again at the next meeting.

Next meeting will be held on **October 10 at 7 pm** at Heritage Village. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Tracy Laaveg, Recording Secretary