

Iola Historical Society

Board Meeting Minutes, March 31, 2014

The meeting was called to order by President Cliff Mishler @ 5:45 pm.

Present: Cliff Mishler, Lyle Mork, Doug Watson, Tom Fucik and John Bertelson

Absent: Stella Strand, Greg Loescher

Secretary's report

1. Cliff had the following correction to the February 24, 2014 meeting minutes,
 - a. Board meeting discussions, item 2: It should be Lyla Erickson, not Lila Erikson.
2. Motion to approve the February 24, 2014 meeting minutes as corrected: Tom, second by Doug. All approved.

Treasurer's report

1. Motion to approve the report for February: John, second by Lyle. All approved.

Discussions

1. Cliff had a number of comments regarding February's meeting.
 - a. He acknowledged that the auction has been cancelled.
 - b. Item 10 under the board meeting discussions dealt with building security. Cliff mentioned that if the schoolhouse had been left open, it would have been since the Winter Carnival, not the Taste of Norway. He had been in there looking for a jug.
 - c. The west door of the Machine Shed needs work. He will notify Charlie Wasrud for repairs.
2. John brought up the subject of meeting minutes being sent to members of the press. Many details from the January 27th meeting had been published in the March 6th edition of the County Post West. The issue was that some of that information was no longer valid at that time due to changes made during the February meetings.
 - a. Motion to create a non-detailed summary of meeting minutes to be sent to the press after board review, with the notation that it is not to be published: John, second by Doug. Motion passed, with Tom abstaining.
3. Building security was once again discussed. It was agreed that more diligence is needed by the board members to make sure the buildings are locked when no one is present.
4. Lyle brought up the following.
 - a. There are many books at the Historical Society that are not selling as well as when they were first published.
 - i. Motion to reduce the price of all Historical Society books to \$10 to stimulate sales: Lyle, second by Tom. All approved.
 - b. Lyle is working on the State Historical Society mini-grant for the storage of records in the Resource Center.
 - c. The Historical Society has been recommended to receive funds from Thrivant based on the amount of volunteer hours our members provide. Cliff and Lyle are working on the details.
 - d. Lyle inquired about the constitution update. John said he was still reviewing past meeting minutes for motions to include in the index. Doug had provided a sample of by-laws created to meet the State Historical Society guidelines. Cliff expressed concern with the requirement that the assets of the Iola Historical Society transfer to the state in the event of dissolution. Cliff asked about the benefits of belonging to the state organization, and if it was worth it. He would rather see the assets pass onto the village, not the state. Doug mentioned that one benefit we get is exposure through the state website, and they also offer regional conferences which are quite informative. It was decided to discuss this further at a later date.
 - e. Motion to deposit \$25,000 from Chet Krause to balance out the negative project funds, with the remainder being used for operating costs: Lyle, second by Doug. After much discussion, it was decided to table the motion until the full board can review.

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5. Doug asked that more details be added to the donations section of The Window regarding the gift of artifacts. Cliff will consider this along with the possibility of listing the dollar ranges of contributions instead of actual values.

6:35pm, meeting adjourned. With the number of issues to discuss, the board will meet earlier next month.

General Meeting Minutes, March 31, 2014

Call to order by President Cliff Mishler @6:35pm. There were twenty-five people in attendance. The meeting was held in the IHS Fire Station due to the ongoing construction in the museum.

Secretary's report

- Motion to approve the February 24, 2014 meeting minutes: Lee Halverson, second by Kathy Bestul. All approved.

Treasurer's report

- Charlie Thompson asked why only \$530 was listed for work on the R.I. Anderson Display. Tom explained that additional funds are in hand, but they were recorded after the February report period ended and will show up in the March report.
- Motion to approve the February report: Sharon Peterson, second by Sue Halverson. All approved.

Discussions

- The following items were brought up regarding the new Memorial Day event, which replaced the Spaghetti Luncheon this year.
 - Sharon Peterson mentioned that the American Legion is in favor of having this event following the annual parade.
 - Sharon also said that Stella Strand had suggested holding a pig roast. Someone mentioned having Niemuth's supply it.
 - Doug Watson suggested that someone from the Historical Society attend the Scandinavia Fire Department pig roast on May 12th to observe their operations.
 - Cliff inquired about holding the dedication for the Machine Shed along with the event. Charlie Thompson said that he will be done with his work in two weeks. Lyle suggested that all of the displays should be completed before having the dedication and that may not be done in time. Lee Halverson inquired as to when the demos will be ready, but no one had an estimated time. There was a general consensus that the dedication should be a separate event at a later time.
 - Cliff and Sharon will work on the details for the Memorial Day event.
 - Sharon volunteered the ladies of the Historical Society to make the deserts.
 - Motion to proceed with the IHS Memorial Day event with the American Legion, while providing free meals for veterans and charging a fee for the general public, with the IHS providing deserts: Lyle Mork, second Charlie Thompson. All approved.
 - Lyle will check with other pig roast vendors to see if any will charge a flat fee for the event.

7:00 pm, motion to adjourn: Lee Halverson, second by Joel Edler. All approved.

Minutes recorded by Secretary, John Bertelson

Following the meeting, there was a presentation on the history of the Iola & Rural Fire Department by Cliff Mishler, with the current status of the department given by Chief Chuck Fritz.