

Iola Historical Society

Board Meeting Minutes, March 29, 2021

Board members Cliff, Lee, Tom, Bonny, Charlie T., Sarah and John present. Cliff called the meeting to order at 5:27pm.

Motion made to accept the meeting minutes from last October, Lee, second by Charlie. Motion Passed.

Tom gave the Treasurer's report. Not much activity. Reviewed the balance sheet, as of February 28, 2021. A couple memorial donations were received, one for Don Halverson and one for Howard Bestul. One of the costs for March will be related to a new computer and software Tom had to get, which may involve a new format for future Treasurer's reports too.

Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report, John, second by Bonny. Motion Passed.

Cliff reviewed a list of expected activities planned for this year. List is outlined in the membership meeting notes below.

John got an email from the South Wood Co. Historical Museum in Wisconsin Rapids asking if other historical societies would be interested in a loom they were getting rid of. Our historical society is already storing a large disassembled loom used by a local artisan, who demonstrates at our Taste of Norway event, so the board sees no need for another. John will respond to the email.

Board meeting adjourned 6:22pm.

Membership Meeting Minutes, March 29, 2021

Cliff opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:31pm. Seventeen people were present.

Sharon Peterson motioned to accept the October 2020 meeting minutes, Sarah Abramson second, passed

Tom gave the financial report, covering the same items as in the board meeting.
Sue Halverson motioned to accept, Sharon Peterson second ... motion approved.

Cliff asked for thoughts about the list of activities planned for this year,

1. May 22 Waupaca Fire Dept. 150th Anniversary Parade?
 - a. Cliff asked if there was any interest in participating. Charlie T. is willing to trailer the 1912 Waterous Pumper for the parade, if his schedule allows. The parade begins at 10 am, which should be ok with Charlie's schedule. Cliff will look into getting an "Iola Historical Society" banner printed for it.
2. May 21-22 Iola-Scandinavia Chamber of Commerce Community Rummage Sale?
 - a. There are fixtures, file cabinets and other non-collection items we could sell, but there is a reluctance to sell any donated item unless documentation is found to verify it can be sold. Lee is in the process of organizing our donation records, and asked Tom for more information when he finds it on items Tom has donated from the mill. There is membership interest in a sale of some items, but Cliff is reluctant to call it rummage. If we have a sale, it will be a stand-alone event and the public may be invited to bring items to sell too. If the public is included, it must be understood that they take their items back with them if they do not sell.
3. May 31 Memorial Day Pork Roast Salute to Military Veterans?
 - a. Sharon said that the American Legion is planning to have a speaker at their park this year, along with the high school band. Due to continued concerns with covid-19, the Legion recommends skipping the pork roast this year. The members at our meeting agreed so no pork roast this year.
4. June 27 Annual Strawberry Fest Fundraiser?
 - a. Will defer the decision on this event until the meeting in April.

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5. July 16-17 Taste & Tunes
 - a. Cliff signed the agreement to participate. Need something to sell, so will work with Taste of Elegance.
6. May 26 Historic Iola Marker / Cliff Thompson
 - a. Will be installed by the Crystal Café, where Cliff T.'s law office used to be located. Charlie T. will bring Cliff T.'s big chair to the event, if the weather is ok. Sharon will contact the Strand children to see if they can bring Cliff T.'s ring.
7. June 5 to Aug. 28, Saturdays, Village and Museums Open for Visitations
 - a. Only opened to the public eight times last year, with about 30 total visitors. Cliff did see good interest. Donna Hooker suggested we still require mask wearing. Cliff will make sure hand-sanitizers are available.
8. Am. Legion - Historic Iola Marker Placement / South Branch Bridged 1853
 - a. Corner of park by sidewalk. Cliff working with a person from the Wis. Dept. of Transportation to find more historical information.
 - b. The Legion has been meeting in the Machine Shed monthly this year, and has expressed interest in continuing to use it.
9. Glacier Wood – Placement of ad in Golf Course Brochure?
 - a. Cost for ad is \$350/yr. Board decided not to pursue.
10. Internet - Machine Shed and Property Access
 - a. Wireless access is only available in the museum area now, but we are looking to boost the signal to other areas of our property. Tom will research options with TDS, or maybe Best Buy.
 - b. Cliff mentioned on email from Doug Watson about the availability of encryption security for our website, which would cost an additional \$199 over what we pay now to Go Daddy. Since we do not currently use our website for commerce, we may not need it. Tom will do more research.
11. Housekeeping – Building and Grounds Springtime Sprucing Up
 - a. The high school honor society will be doing their community service workday on May 5th. Cliff will ask for a crew to help clean the grounds.
 - b. Sometime later in May will be a cleanup by IHS volunteers. Will be discussed at meeting in April.
12. Homeschool Group Tour Request
 - a. We do want to host group tours this year, so John will follow up on the request he got by email.

Marlene Netzler mentioned Waupaca Radio could provide free publicity for our events. It is a radio station that covers the Waupaca area and is also available on local cable TV. Contact the station at least six weeks before an event and they may feature an on-air promo for the organization. Cliff will follow up with Greg L.

Sharon Peterson donated a 1952 calendar from Schmidt's Snack Shack. Sharon's aunt ran the business for twelve years. A cousin found and gave the calendar to Sharon.

7:02 pm, meeting adjourned. Next meeting planned for Monday, April 26, 2021.

For the program following the meeting, Lee Halverson shared some of the stories by Robert Anderson about people around the area. Robert used to write a short feature published in the Iola Herald. A video was made of the presentation and is available for members who would like to view it.

8:00 pm, end of the presentation.

Minutes recorded by Secretary – John Bertelson