

Board Meeting Minutes, June 28, 2021

Board members Cliff, Lee, Tom, Bonny, Charlie T., Sarah and John present. Cliff called the meeting to order at 5:33pm.

Secretary and Treasurer reports covered during membership meeting.

Cliff had a few items to go over,

- Both the 1912 Sears car and the Bestul car will be shown in the building at the Car Show this year.
- Letter from Alliant indicated that all natural gas lines from the meters to the buildings should be inspected and wrapped with insulation to protect them from corrosion – painting is not enough. Cliff will check with Dale regarding our insurance coverage. Charlie pointed out there are several lines into our buildings, so it may be costly. Will consider Wesley Heating and Mechanical Connections for estimates.
- Reviewed our Facilities Use form for outside groups. It was created a few years ago, but never used regularly. Lee asked if a member needs to be present, as the form requires. The form has two signature lines, one for a representative from the outside group and one for a member of our historical society. The member who signs the form is responsible, so it is left up to them whether or not they attend
 - It was suggested that a list of rules for use of the facilities be posted somewhere near the entrance to the Machine Shed. Charlie has an enclosed display case that he may be able to donate for this purpose.
- There are visitor sign-in logs for our buildings, but we do not presently do anything with the information. Presently the form has spaces to enter the date, name and address of the visitors. It was suggested to add the number in the group, comments and a space for an email. It was also suggested to use this information for follow up, with possibly a letter sent out in April each year to inform of upcoming events. A column should be added to the form to opt out of contact. John will modify the forms.
- Docents are needed for the Saturday open houses in July.
- Have obtained limestone fines for our new pathways. Will schedule workdays in July for this project.

Charlie mentioned that his son could get a motion detector camera for between \$50 and \$75 if we want to set one up to monitor the area around the depot. Graffiti was found on the building earlier this month. Tom has a multi-camera system set up for his business that works very well, so he will get a price estimate for our facilities.

Lee,

- He noticed that the food bill for the Memorial Day event was not in our financial report yet. He thanked Greg Loescher for donating the cost for the pork.
- Motion to create the Young Historian membership category for those who are high school age or in college. Second by Tom. Motion passed.
 - Will be written into the by-laws this fall.
- Lee & Sue attended an event at Point Basse, which is a historical park near Nekoosa, WI. It marks the historical start of the navigable part of the lower Wisconsin River. The park has nine events a year, and Lee would like to organize a group visit to their event on Saturday September 11.
- Taste of Norway ... need volunteers to be responsible for contacting the artisans and crafters for the event. Greg mentioned that the Chamber might not be hosting the gift fair at our event anymore, as their focus may just be for the Winter Carnival. The historical society may need to take it over.
- Lee would like to see the “adopt a building” program restart. This is an opportunity for outside groups to get more involved with our facilities.
- Lee asked if the red light and fire alarm on the Firehouse building is operable. Cliff believes that the switch only operates the light.

Sarah mentioned there are hornets outside the log cabin. Any nest should be sprayed.

Bonny,

- There are lots of spiders and bugs in our buildings. Greg said that the buildings are usually sprayed the 3rd week in September. Cliff suggested we consider spraying twice a year. Greg will check with the company he uses, Cramer in Waupaca.
- The recent Strawberry Fest event (yesterday) used 45.5 gallons of the 149 gallons of strawberries ordered, so there is a lot left over and is for sale. The opened containers will be served tonight with leftover shortcake and ice cream ... after tonight’s program.
 - Used about half of the hot dogs ordered.
 - Did not have much leftover ice cream.

John,

- The estimated attendance for Strawberry Fest is 250 people. Cliff thought there were more people interested and engaged with our displays than he saw with past events.
- Tom gave John some information on a grant opportunity from the state Historical Society related to distribution of covid funds.

Charlie mentioned that we need power strips with light indicators, as we unknowingly lost power for some of the roasting pans yesterday.

Greg,

- He is taking down the Strawberry Fest banners around town and putting up the Taste & Tunes banners. There are 16 venues for this year's Taste & Tunes event. The event began three years ago, but cancelled two years ago due to bad storms and last year for covid ... so this will be the second actual event, weather permitting.
- Taste & Tunes is scheduled for July 16 & 17, and the historical society will host an entertainer during its normal open house hours on Saturday the 17th. Will probably sell sweets from the Taste of Elegance, and we need a stamp for the visitor cards. Will consider using the flatbed railcar. May set up picnic tables in front.
- Deja Melby plays the Scandinavian fiddle, and Greg will ask him to consider playing at our Taste of Norway event. He will be the entertainer for Taste & Tunes at ScandiHus.

Board meeting adjourned 6:31pm.

Membership Meeting Minutes, June 28, 2021

Cliff opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:32pm. Thirty-four people were present.

Donna Hooker motioned to accept the May meeting minutes, Sue Halverson second, passed

Tom gave the financial report. The endowment fund is doing well. Most numbers are in for the Memorial Day event. Some operating expenses due to equipment and furnace repairs. Greg donated the cost of the pork, which was used for both the Memorial Day event and for Strawberry Fest. Greg motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, Sarah Abramson second ... motion approved.

Cliff,

- Docents are needed for July. Lee volunteered for the 3rd, Sarah for the 10th, 17th and 31st, Cliff for the 17th and Charlie Nordness for the 24th. Would like one or two more for the 17th, which is Taste & Tunes.
- A pile of limestone fines has been placed in the parking lot of the firehouse to use for our pathways. Cliff will email a request for volunteers. Plans are to work on the paths during Wednesday workdays ... 9am to at least noon. Start the work after the Car Show.

Lee,

- Covered his idea for a group visit to tour Point Basse. September 11 is their Harvest Fair event.
- Adopt a building program ... looking for those who may be interested.

Greg,

- Historical marker #18, for Clifford Thompson, was installed by the Crystal Café at the end of March. It was set on a base, not sunk into the ground like other markers, so it needs to be lowered a bit. Its final height will be matched to the height of Clifford Thompson ... who, at one time, was considered the world's tallest person.

Sue,

- Nine packages of leftover pulled pork are available for sale at \$10 each, while unopened strawberry containers are being sold at \$16 each. Each container has about 6 ½ lbs. of strawberries.

Meeting adjourned 6:55pm

The evening program was a presentation by a group from the South New Hope Cemetery and Church restoration site. Very interesting, and the presentation is available on video for anyone who would like to see it.