

Iola Historical Society

Board Meeting Minutes, October 25, 2021

Board members Cliff, Lee, Tom, Bonny, Charlie T., Sarah and John present. Cliff called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

The meeting minutes from September were reviewed. Charlie T. pointed out that he was a guest singer in the band, not a member.

Bonny motioned to approve the Secretary report for September, Tom second ... motion passed

Tom gave the Treasurer's report. The report is for September, so the Taste of Norway numbers are not in this report. Quiet month. Three major in-kind donations are listed on the last page. Lee wondered why sponsors were listed now, and Cliff had sent out solicitation later in the year than normal, so he asked for \$200 instead of the normal \$300. The total was divided by three and allocated to each of our three events.

Lee made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report, Sarah second ... motion passed.

Tom gave a summary from the Taste of Norway event ...

- Revenues were \$1,057 for sales, \$130 for 50:50 split from the Lion's Club, \$1,379 from the raffle, \$389 cash donations, and \$20 from book sales.
- Expenses were \$136 for ticket licenses and printing and \$200 cash prize for second place. Still need the bill from Sentry. Will get credit for the returned lefse.
- The estimated value for the donated prizes was \$1,281.

Estimated attendance was 500 ... a very good turnout.

Tom asked if any donations were going to come from Crystal Café and Trout Bum Bakery. It has been \$50 in the past, but Greg hadn't asked this time.

The pedestrian flow in the machine shed was a little congested, as attendees had to pass by the Norwegian food demonstrations before reaching the food vendors. Charlie suggests a separate express lane next year to get to the food vendors quicker.

Cliff mentioned a paper trimmer donation from John Otterson's cousin that needs to be picked up next week. Charlie T. and Cliff will coordinate. Long-term plan is to include it in our proposed print shop exhibit.

The old loom Jerry Johnson used for TON demonstrations is still stored in the back building. John mentioned that Jerry has a new more portable loom he plans to use from now on, so he will work with Jerry to remove the old one.

Cliff is working on getting more security lighting for our courtyard between the fire house, town hall and depot buildings. He will speak with Mike Stockwell, from Shoemaker Co., to see on best place for the light. Sharon asked if Alliant would be able to help install. Tom said that a monthly fee is usually involved when they are involved.

Tom asked about when the annual budget meeting should be scheduled? It was decided to meet in the museum conference room at 1:30pm on November 15th. Normally the meeting is in October before the final monthly meeting for the year.

Greg asked about the raffle winners for the TON. Cliff gave the list of names to Holly Neumann.

The annual community Santa parade is being planned for 4:30pm, the first such parade at night so that lights can be used on the floats. Greg said there would be no Chamber float this year as Mr. & Mrs. Claus will ride on the Lion's Club float. As usual, the parade is the first Saturday in December, so there will be a workday at the historical society for the Lion's to decorate their float and set up the machine shed for Santa's visit with kids after the parade. "Gift" boxes will be decorated and set up around Santa, as there will be no sitting on Santa's lap this year due to covid precautions.

Charlie T. passed around a model Iola RR boxcar kit that he got recently, that we may want to consider using to raise funds. Bonny is thinking of adopting the depot.

Lee had a few items to discuss ...

- The furnaces and heaters in all of our buildings probably need to be checked out and changed over to winter settings. Charlie T. will take care of it, and will write down the procedures for future use.
- Bonny, Donna and Lee are done with the Iola Herald archive project.
- Bank First held a community service activity for their employees called Make a Difference day (MAD), when they were closed for Columbus Day. Three employees spent the morning helping Tom at the mill, then the afternoon in our Resource Center putting seven boxes of information into our computer records.

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- Lee is drafting a policy for our Adopt-a-Building program. Motion to accept the policy will be deferred until the meeting in January.
 - One major project for the Depot will be to reset the joists for the roof support.

The Historical Society Christmas party will be in December at the Millstone. The docent of the year and volunteer of the year will be decided at the budget meeting.

John mentioned that the October meeting for the Iola Lake District is planned for this Wednesday in the Machine Shed. Charlie asked that the chairs be stacked on the floor-carts by the west service door after the meeting, and that a table be left set up at the entrance from the main parking lot.

Board meeting adjourned 6:29 pm.

Membership Meeting Minutes, October 25, 2021

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

Greg Loescher motioned to accept the September meeting minutes, Charlie Nordness second, passed

Tom gave the financial report. Greg reported on the cost for bug spraying the selected buildings. The Taste of Norway went well. Estimate 500 people attended.

Sarah motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, Greg second ... motion approved.

Cliff,

- Paper trimmer donation.
- Some of the new gravel pathway is being tracked into our buildings, so will need some cleanup before winter.
- Plan on installing a courtyard light before winter.
- At 10am on Saturday November 6, will be the dedication for the Rural Schoolhouse marker. Our schoolhouse building is a replica of the Townsend school. Lee and Sue have adopted the schoolhouse and hope to have some retired teachers show up for the event.
- The Santa Parade will be the first Saturday in December.
- Robbie Louison reported over 30 children took part in the troll workshop at the schoolhouse during the Taste of Norway. That falls within the historical numbers of 53 children for the most and 19 for the least attended event over the years. She is guessing this year was 34 or 35.

Lee,

- Lee mentioned a concern for the way the foot-traffic flow was set up in the Machine Shed during the Taste of Norway. It did not allow people enough time to watch the demonstrations, since many in line were just there for the food provided by the vendors. Will look at rearranging the line and vendors a bit next year. John wants to make sure people can still get to our Historical Society table too.
- The building adoption policy decision will be deferred until the January meeting.
- On Hwy B, near the Portage Co. line, a lady has renovated the old Riverview school building and plans on an open house from 10am until 4pm on Saturday October 30.

Annual election of the board and officers.

Charlie T. motioned to reinstall the board as it, along with the same slate of officers for the 2021-22 year, Bonny second ... motion approved.

Meeting adjourned 6:55pm

The evening program involved showing the videos Lee took at the Taste of Norway event, including interviews with a few vendors and demonstrators. The videos are available for anyone who would like to see them.

7:18pm end.