

STEELE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 21st, 2024 - 6:00 PM

Steele County History Center

Members Present: Elizabeth Anselmo, Tom Bonacci, Dave Effertz, Jerry Ganfield, Dan Gorman, Samona Grubish, Keith Holman, Patty Jessop, Judy Johnson, Deb Lustig, Alexandra McGuire, Andy McGuire, Chris Fisk and Nancy Vaillancourt

Members Absent: Jane Middlestadt

Steele County Liaison: Rick Gnemi

Staff Present: Jennifer Thiele, MaryAnne Higgins, Amy Lowery, Anne Peterson

1. Welcome and Call to Order: Meeting called to order by Jessop

- a. Determination of Quorum:** Effertz announced there is a Quorum

2. Approve Agenda and Consent Items a. – Action Item: Approve Meeting Agenda and Minutes (M/S/P) (Gorman/Andy McGuire)

3. Finance Committee Report

- Reports included in board packet
- Reviewed Balance Sheets as of July 31, 2024
- Reviewed Profit & Loss Statements (P & L, July '24(digital version incorrect) and P & L Previous Year Comparison, July '24 vs '23)
- Degner Foundation continues to grow
- Utilities the same as last year
- Income less than expenses.
- Recent special event net revenues not yet established
- **a. Action Item: Approve June Financials - (M/S/P) (Ganfield – Finance Com/Gorman) to approve the July Financial Reports**

4. Staff Reports

MaryAnne:

-Multiple groups in July/Aug

Anne:

- Sept 21. Fall celebration.
- Bus tours are helping with revenue
- 134 people come through in the 17 days open
- Fair week attendance at Orphanage was “average” for that week

Amy:

- Some vintage items (from farm and machinery excess) have been sold at the Fair

- pop-up exhibit for SCFF (displayed in Wenger Room and Dunnell House). 26 outfits were on display. This increased foot traffic to History Center. 200 for the week.

Jennifer:

- Business After Hours -SCHS will solo host Feb 25 of 2025
- Dunnell house more than 1000 people during Fair Week
- City allocation \$5k (same amount for about 30 years) and Wenger memorial \$8k
- No golf cart because of lack of funds

5. Committee Reports

Executive – Jessop

- USS Bunker hill presentation 100 attendees
- Onward and Upward Sept 7th expect 70 some attendees
- LTO partner Murder mystery dinner here – they will give us actors for the next night for flashlight Halloween event
- No golf cart because of lack of funds
- Service Bay Update- sell limited edition prints for \$10 each

Governance – Lustig

- Board member terms Jerry, Dan, Judy, Elizabeth can re-up. One vacancy available (should be outside Owatonna. We can fill this spot now).

Exhibits – Lowery

- Already covered in Amy's report

Education & Programming – Vaillancourt

Working on Stories and flashlight Halloween event

Marketing - Thiele

- No meeting

Acquisition & Collections - Ganfield

-farm equipment almost all gone

Service Bay Capital Campaign – Thiele

Already covered

Events – Lustig

-thanked Staff for all their work during the Fair

- need volunteers for cookie sale
- Victorian Tea coming up

Building and Maintenance – Ganfield

- boardwalk repair
- Carriage house doors repair
- Post office needs paint

Tech/IT – Effertz/Gorman

- Baker Tech still need to hear from them

6. Old Business

- None

7. New Business – Membership restructure

Compared with surrounding Counties for rates and benefits (decided to keep benefits the same but get a free book)

Business membership will now be a sponsorship for \$500

Full recommendation sheet was handed out including Next Steps.

Much discussion ensued.

Grubish motion to approve as recommended. Second by Holman. Motion passes.

Lifetime Banned volunteers update: One of them misrepresented themselves and parked here during Fair week and was on SCHS property for multiple days during Fair. SCHS will continue to work positively with communities like Ellendale. Volunteers put on notice to alert Staff or Board Member if seen again on SCHS properties.

8. Open Discussion – None

9. Meeting Adjourned @ 7:54 PM

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 16th, 2024 at 6 pm at the History Center.

Respectfully Submitted
Dave Effertz, Vice President