

Dodge County Historical Society
Board of Directors “Virtual” Meeting

December 17, 2020

Minutes

Members Present: Dave Hanson, Linda Jerviss, Lois Hancock, Jean Bartel, Jim Checkel, Janet Kubat Willette, Mark Packard

Members Absent: Scott French, Dave Chiccos

Staff: None

Guests: None

Call to Order: 6:34

Additions to Agenda: None

Reports

1. Secretary’s Report -- A motion was made by Janet Kubat Willette to accept the minutes. A second motion was made by Jean Bartel. Approved by all.

2. Treasurer’s Report – Linda Jerviss presented the Financial Report. The Bills to Pay were presented. Linda noted that MacDonald & Mack has now been paid for the Wasioja School - \$1,566.75. Bluestem Heritage was paid for the Wasioja School Final Report - \$458.00. A motion was made by Jim Checkel to accept the report; a second motion was made by Lois Hancock. All approved.

3. Grants Report –

4. Collections/Exhibits Report – Jean Bartel offered to pay for all the costs associated with putting the woodland tree up in the government center.

5. Building & Grounds – Jim Checkel reported that he has tried to contact the caretaker of the grounds in Wasioja for the work that was done last summer. He cannot reach her.

6. Wasioja Historic District Ad Hoc Committee – Committee member Janet Kubat Willette reported that she had talked with Melissa DeVetter regarding the grant application for signage at Wasioja. The grant application did not include an audio component when it was first sent out for bids and Sarah from Bluestem later updated her bid to account for writing audio script. Melissa was unsure if she needed to rebid and if so, there wasn’t time to do this before the January 2021 application date. In related action, there was discussion about having an audio info spot at each of the six (6) historic sites in Wasioja. A motion was made by Jean Bartel for DCHS to pay the

monthly bill associated with this. A second motion was made by Lois Hancock. Janet Kubat Willette opposed the motion, but the majority of the members approved it.

Old Business

- 1. Past Perfect** – Janet Kubat Willette has been working with Warren Schwenke and Dave Hanson to update the mailing addresses for members.
- 2. Appeal letter** discussion and mailing – Linda Jervis and Dave Hanson have been working on the annual appeal letter. Jean Bartel, Lois Hancock and Linda Jerviss will work on getting the letters out: copying, folding, stuffing envelopes.
- 3. Website repair** – Janet reported that we are waiting for Mary Ann Bucher to move *Go Daddy*. There was discussion about the need for a technically savvy person to maintain our website. The monthly minutes are on the website, they only need to be brought up to date.
- 4. Wasioja land purchase** – Mark Packard has been in contact with Tara Bjerke, the owner of the land next to the Recruiting Station. She says there is no lien on the property and she wants to sell it. The amount of \$60,000 was bandied about. There was discussion of “right of first refusal”. Mark will call Tara in a few weeks.
- 5. Duke’s report** – Duke Harbaugh is the Dodge County Building director. The roof is on hold. DCHS has property that will get new roofs: the Museum, the Red House and Ashland School. Dodge County has hired a contractor for this purpose.
- 6. Wasioja shirts** and books – Jean Bartel checked with Don Smith, the Friends of Wasioja representative. She says there are shirts of all sizes. She hopes that by March 1 DCHS can sell them at the Museum.

New Business

1. Goodhue County surplus **exhibit cases** – Janet found exhibit cases online. DCHS can use these in our displays. Dave Hanson, Jim Checkel and Mark Packard will go to pick them up on Saturday.
- 2. Dodge County old barrister bookcases** – Linda Jerviss received a call from a previous courthouse employee who wanted to buy one of these bookcases. After some discussion, DCHS agreed to sell one bookcase and accession one bookcase into our collection. One bookcase has four (4) units in it. There are five (5) bookcases stored in the Wasioja School. DCHS was offered \$700 for one bookcase; this is a fair price. A motion was made by Lois Hancock to sell one bookcase and accession one for the Museum. A second motion was made by Jean Bartel. All approved.
- 3. Old newspapers** – Janet received a call from Wayne Meyer, a local Dodge Center contact, who said there were a number of newspapers from Dodge County at the

Public Library in Dodge Center. They are the Dodge County Star, Star Herald and Star Record. Some go back to 1912. Mark Packard offered to check with the Minnesota Historical Society to see if they have these issues. DCHS would like the newspapers, even if they are available in microfiche.

Adjourn at 8:30. Next meeting will be January 21. We will meet at Jean Bartel's creamery at 6:30.