

MANDAN Historical Society



Board of Directors Meeting

Heritage Plaza

**411 West Main St
Mandan ND 58554**

Thursday March 4, 2010

Present: President Bryen Birkholz, VP (Programming) Dave Kroll, Treasurer Bill Engelter; MHSoc Directors, Bob Porter, Kathy Spilman, Sharon Huettl, Eldo Johnson, Walt Russell and members Susan Huntington and Denise Reis.

Absent: VP (Membership) Bill Schott, Secretary Melanie Bernier, Mary Harris

Meeting was called to order by President Bryen Birkholz at 7:05 p.m.

Secretary's Report:

Absent the Secretary, Kathye Spilman distributed meeting minutes prepared by Secretary Bernier for the February 11, 2010 meeting. She also volunteered to take minutes for the evening's meeting. One correction and two additions were offered: the discussion on possible Fourth of July activities at Tara had not included a tea, Kathye Spilman and Bob Porter had volunteered to spearhead the development of a Theodore Roosevelt-relevant display for the Beanery Museum space, and any funds raised for activities associated with a Ron Erhardt visit were to be earmarked for the Mandan Historical Society Endowment fund. Motion made by Bill Engelter to approve the minutes as amended; seconded by Kathye Spilman. Motion approved via voice vote with one dissention.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Bill Engelter distributed copies of his Treasurer's report. A \$100 donation had been received from the Ft. Lincoln Corral of the Westerners Club (i.e. the Bismarck-Mandan chapter). Treasurer Engelter asked that they be added to the list of sponsors posted to the Society's website. Russell moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Huettl seconded. Approve via voice vote without dissention.

Old Business:

Fire Truck Committee:

Dave Kroll reported that he had another conversation with owner Bernie Long, the current owner of the old fire truck in California. Mr. Long seems to have interpreted multiple calls from Dave

as more than one party interested in purchasing the salvaged truck and does not seem to be willing to negotiate on its price. The approach to endure our organization to Mr. Long and his wife's memory appears to have been stalled. Kroll suggested returning to the strategy of having the California-based fire fighter/fire truck restoration enthusiast Mike Britt contact him on the Society's behalf.

An article for the Mandan News has been prepared and submitted. It is scheduled for publication in the March 5 publication. The publicity is expected to identify other local resources for a potential restoration project. Representatives from the former Beck's museum are currently out of state and are unable to be contacted.

Denise Reis offered to assist in soliciting donations from area businesses for the project.

Digital Horizon Grant:

Kathy reported she had confirmed that the Digital Horizon was limited to only the State Historical Society of North Dakota's offer for their staff to scan/digitize photos for posting on the internet. No funding was identified in that specific announcement for archiving materials.

Mandan Visitor's Committee/MPO Grant:

Bill reported he wanted to submit an application to the Mandan Progress Organization for an August timeframe event. He suggested funding promotion for a possible Ron Erhardt visit. Walt Russell suggested auctioning off an opportunity to play 9-holes of golf with him. It was also suggested that an event be held in conjunction with the Mandan High football teams, suggested contacting Coach O'Brien. Kathy Spilman volunteered to contact Mr. Erhardt to find out if he would be returning to the area this summer.

SHSND Cultural Heritage Grant – Mandan Historic Photos Project:

Frames are on order. Bill Engelter is working with sources to identify which photos the Society should obtain for its uses. Intention to focus on photos not readily available via other sources.

ND Pottery Collectors Society Grant:

No report offered.

Community Events:

Bill Engelter reported that Gilbert Young - the Theodore Roosevelt historical re-enactor would be scheduled to appear only on Sunday July 4. Since the parade was being held that morning and given it was a Sunday, it was unclear his availability to the organization that day. Scheduling him at any "off-site" location such as Tara/Stuart Dunlap home would be impractical. Discussion ensued whether to have him stationed in the Society's museum room, however concerns over the small space and disruptive traffic flow was expressed. Final suggestion was to

have the open space near the Roosevelt "Roughrider" statue in the ellipse in front of the NP depot assigned to the Society. Possible fundraiser - charging for autographs on a print of the 1903 TR visit to Mandan was suggested.

Publicity Committee:

Bryen Birkholz offered to assist in obtaining public service announcement to promote the events of the Society.

New Business:

Bob Porter is researching information associated with C. E. V. (Charles) Draper - telephone industry pioneer and former Mandan resident - for preparation of a Legacy Program biography for publication on the website and the Mandan News.

Susan Huntington volunteered to assist with displays in the museum and prefers to be contacted via phone since she rarely checks email accounts.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 1, 2010 at 7 pm at the Beanery Building, Mandan, ND.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m. by President Birkholz.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathye Spilman
Director

Approved: Pending