

Mandan Historical Society Meeting

August 5, 2010

Present: Bryen Birkholz, Kathy Spilman, Walt Russell, Bob Porter, Bill Engelter, Melanie Bernier, Mary Harris

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. by President Birkholz.

Past Minutes: July 2010 meeting minutes submitted by Kathy Spilman. Motion to approve: Mary Harris. Second: Walt Russell.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Treasurer Bill Engelter. Motion to approve: Kathy Spilman. Bob Porter second.

Old Business:

May be an upcoming opportunity to reshuffle space depending on what the Art Association decides to do at the Beanery. Rent is currently \$206 per month. Discussion ensued that it might be propitious for the city of Mandan to house the MHSOC for free. However, MHSOC is subletting from the Mandan Progress Organization.

Kathy Spilman reminded the Board that the time is incumbent to re-evaluate the advisability of being housed at the Beanery. Bill Engelter commented that it is helpful that the Beanery is staffed and open M-F. However, he commented that not a lot of visits are occurring to the museum displays.

Bob Porter mentioned the idea of a Christmas ornament fundraiser featuring Christmas ornament with a picture of a historic Mandan building or scene.

The idea of a Tour of Historic Homes in Mandan along with a pie social at the Beanery was discussed. We would need someone to chair this committee. We would need people to contact the homeowners, create a route and brochure, handle advertising, and organize the pie, ice cream, coffee, and possibly a non-caffeinated beverage donations and serving. A date in late September or October was discussed.

Insurance was discussed. President Birkholz suggested insurance for tangible goods only, no liability. Kathy moved that Bryen amend the policy to \$10,000 max and drop the liability. Bob Porter seconds. Motion passed.

Pottery grant for \$50 was received, as noted in the Treasurer's Report. Kathy Spilman asked if someone should be appointed to spend the money, but Bill said that we need to wait and receive rest of the \$500 grant first.

Bill Engelter said that missing sign was located for Bob Gilbreath.

New Business:

Kathye said she talked to Paul Trauger with Morton County about the website and materials. He said he would include our \$500 funding request in the upcoming budget. The MHSOC needs to make a formal request. Kathy will send the letter asap. It was also suggested that someone attend the annual meeting to request the funds in person. Kathy Spilman said she would take care of that.

The pictures of Gibbon Young, TR impersonator, were placed on the website.

The Bismarck Historical Society has set up a Paypal account for people to donate money online. Kathye has offered to do something similar and set up a separate bank account and have a key to it on the endowment page on the website. We need to build up the endowment fund to \$10000 by next year. Mr. Childs told MHSOC he would donate \$2000, so Kathye will check with him. There is currently \$5000 in the endowment fund. Another \$3000 will need to be raised. Kathye requests permission from the board to set up said Paypal account. Bill suggested 50% goes to general operating and 50% to the endowment fund until the \$10,000 is reached. Bob motioned that Kathye should move ahead with her idea. Bill second. Motion passed.

Bill asked Mary if she would be interested in funding the remaining \$750 of the picture fund. Mary agreed. The money will go back to Mary when it comes in.

Bob Porter brought in a brochure of the Dickinson Historical Society. Discussion ensued about the feasibility of the doing something similar.

Kathye Spilman promoted the idea of a MHSOC calendar. Bob moved that we explore the calendar idea. Kathye and Bob will pick out the pics. Kathye second. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Next meeting is Thursday, September 9, 2010.