

MANDAN Historical Society

Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday January 3, 2018



Location: Conference Room at 1403 27th St NW/Mandan (Keitu Engineers & Consultants, Inc.)

Present: President Robert Porter, Vice President Walt Russell, Secretary Kathye Spilman, Treasurer William Engelter, MHSoc Director Bob Barr. Society member Patricia Tostiven was attending via conference call.

Absent: Two open Directors

Meeting called to order by President Porter at 5:00 p.m. Quorum was present.

Officers' Reports

Secretary's Report: Minutes from October 2017 meeting were presented. Motion to approve was made, seconded and approved via voice vote with one typo correction.

Secretary Spilman reported she had scanned the hardcopies of meeting minutes from the 2003-04 timeframe to electronic/.pdf format and is storing the files with other electronically based records of the Society. The prior hardcopies of meeting minutes have been subsequently discarded.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Engelter previously provided bank statement. No deposits since last meeting. No payments since last meeting. Bank balance stands at \$5,937.18. Motion to approve was made, seconded and approved via voice vote.

Three bills presented for payment. Annual report to ND Secretary of State's office to be file along with \$10 filing fee. Bob Barr presented request for payment of \$182.90 to cover costs for recent purchase of two items covered by the ND Pottery Collector's grant. An invoice for \$237.50 was presented from Keitu to recover the costs of a recent upgrade to the Past Perfect Software to include the inventory module including bar scanning functionality. This expense should fall the existing directed grant for research work and artifact documentation. Motion to approve payment of bills was made, seconded and approved via voice vote.

Committee Reports

Buildings & Grounds Committee: An earlier proposal to raise funds to construct space at the ND State Railroad Museum in Mandan was revisited. Bill Engelter estimated at least \$8000 would be needed to professionally frame and roof the building. Kathye indicated risk of storing

the collection in an unheated building seasonally used space – suggesting to plan on storing airtight containers for storage until the room could be upgraded. After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to proceed with fundraising effort and to commit via written agreement with the ND State Railroad Museum to construction and operation of a 20 x 20 ft space along the northeast fence line. Final commitment is dependent on the success of the fundraising efforts through the next Directors meeting. Motion approved by voice vote. Kathye Spilman and Bill Engelter each committed a \$500 donation toward the project. Several assignments were made to contact businesses and previous private supporters of the Society. Kathye volunteers to draft an article to be submitted to the local newspaper.

Communication & Public Relations Committee: Kathye reported on recent contacts and responses through the Society's website via email and/or calls.

Donations & Acquisitions Committee: Bob Porter reported Pat Tostiven offered permission to post a scanned copy of the booklet "Mantani" for non-commercial use on the Society's website. Kathye expressed concerns over limits to prevent unauthorized duplication of the Tostiven family's intellectual property with the current website. She asked to follow-up with Pat before posting. The Directors reviewed the current layout of the website and offered suggestions as to placement on the webpage(s). Ms. Tostiven also indicated she was putting together other records researched or prepared by her husband uncle Earle Tostevin. Concerns were expressed about setting a precedent over expectations of posting such individual/private collection content. Further discussion tabled.

Endowment Committee: Nothing new to report.

Grant Committee: Nothing to report.

Nomination Committee: Nothing to report.

Membership Committee: Kathye Spilman reported that the previously identify dates for an annual meeting / City Charter Day event the third week in February would need to be tabled as now at least three other events for that same week were conflicting. Another option would be to schedule a date in mid-May before summer events got fully underway. Reviewing meeting minutes early from the Society suggested that the membership year was intended to end midway each calendar year and it may be worthwhile to return to that format. Further discussion tabled until the next Director's meeting.

Old Business

Pottery Grant: Bob Barr presented two items purchased with the open grant. Bob pointed out that the Mandan Historical Society now has one of the largest collections in the state. The items will be retained in the artifact inventory until additional display space is obtained.

New Business

Kathye Spilman indicated she did attend the recent public hearing in Bismarck on the application by the BNSF railroad to replace the current historic Missouri River rail bridge. She outlined briefly the three alternatives presented by the railroad. An electronic copy of the letter and map from the US Coast Guard about had been forwarded to each Director upon receipt in December. And according to the letter received by the Society, one additional private consultation opportunity would occur with MHSoc. She did not testify, consistent with the current Society's policy that it was a historical society and not a preservation society. After short discussion, this policy was renewed by the existing Directors.

Next Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 18, 2018 at 5 p.m. at the Conference Room at Keitu Engineers & Consultants, Inc.

Motion to adjourn at 6:15 p.m. made, seconded and approved via voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathye Spilman
Secretary

Approved: April 18, 2018