

Nemaha County Historical Society
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2019

Following a light dinner at 5:00pm, President Anita Heiman called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Board members in attendance were Raymond Thieme, Karen Holthaus, Cathy Holthaus, Alma Ackerman, Joyce Olberding, Ilene Enneking, Robert Ackerman, Patty Byers, and Anita Heiman. Volunteer Marcia Philbrick and Director Diane Rottinghaus were also in attendance.

Minutes:

Patty presented the minutes from the October 23, 2018 quarterly meeting as previously emailed to each board member. With no corrections or additions, Alma moved and Cathy seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Raymond presented the first quarter financial report. Beginning balance was \$18,834.83. Total income for the first quarter of 2019 was \$3,329.90. Expenses for the first quarter totaled \$3,456.44, leaving an ending checking account balance of \$18,708.29. In addition, NCHS earned interest on the \$40,000 Burger Trust Fund investments, as well as the NCHS CD from the land sale, the CD from the general fund, and the CD for the restricted \$30,000 funds which are reserved for matching grant funds. The Edward Jones Mutual Funds total is \$14,132.17. Our AmazonSmiles special account total is \$100.03, and our Go Fund Me special account total is \$100.02. Robert moved and Ilene seconded the motion to accept the first quarter financial report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports:

- Anita reported that pictures which will help to explain several of our displays to viewers have been found and printed off. She also would like to add a clothesline to the laundry display, and a weed sign at the military museum. Anita also led a discussion on the EMT memorial bench. The project has previously been approved, and it is time to allow the former EMT's to proceed. It was decided that the space between the Military Museum building and the canon, near the existing tree, is the place to have them erect their memorial bench. It was generally agreed that the board should review the final plans before work begins.
- Cathy announced that the NCHS grant request from Heritage Trust Fund was denied this year. The HTF grant request was to fund the HVAC system at the Military Museum, as well as to refurbish the front steps. Cathy was asked if the same grant request (with minor revisions) could be resubmitted next year. She affirmed that it could. The board was in agreement that the request should be submitted again next year.
- Ilene updated the board on display projects that are in the works, but not yet complete. Further work is needed. She reported that 2 shelves/stands which will be used in museum displays have been purchased from Shopko for a very reasonable liquidation price. Cathy reminded the board that she still has the shelving units in her shed, and she would love to have them moved out. Possibilities for the shelves were suggested.
- No fundraising report was given as Jason was not present.
- Karen noted that accessions have slowed down some in the last few weeks, but that she is still accessing the oil lamp collection and changing the location of several other items.
- Diane had to leave early, but Anita reported that Diane has led several tours, including a large group of school children in April.
- Alma updated the board members on current membership numbers. At this time, there are 38 gold business memberships, 69 life members, 24 members for 2019, for a total of 131 current members this year. Also, for April-May, our Facebook hits reached 1100, and NCHS is followed by 290 people.
- Joyce reported that she had added 4 new names to the memorial board, and that a new board has been ordered because there is very little space left on either of the existing memorial boards.
- Robert informed the board that he turned on the dehumidifier in the residence's basement, and he will keep an eye on it to make sure it is working properly. He also reported that he sprayed to get rid of the ants found

outside the east door of Annex I. Spotlights on the north side of the sheriff's residence have been installed. Bob reported that there are a couple of finishing touches that need to be added to Jonathan Stallbaumer's Eagle Scout project, such as moving the shed (which is currently located at the military museum) to the north end of the farm equipment display. He also clarified the changes which had been made during the course of Jonathan's project. Bob also suggested that new keys and locks for all museum buildings need to be replaced as soon as Doug gets a free moment to do it. He asked if the trail cameras had been used or checked, but found that they had not. Marcia volunteered Mike to check out the trail cams. Bob also suggested that the large highway sign advertising the museum (which is currently leaning against the east wall of Annex II) could be modified and fastened to the north porch of the residence.

- Marcia reported that the second quarter newsletter will hopefully be out before June 1st, so that it arrives before the garage sale and museum open house.
- No Bancroft report.

Old Business:

- 2019 Golf Classic recap: Karen reported that even though we only had 7 teams this year, the tournament was a success. It netted \$5600 profit from 5 platinum sponsors, 27 gold sponsors, 1 bbq sponsor, and 4 silver sponsors, plus \$235 from door prize ticket sales, \$140 from mulligan sales, and \$320 from the auction items. An anonymous donation of \$1650 paid for the cost of the golf course rental. Rick and Debbie will again chair the event next year on April 25, 2020. It was generally agreed that the timing of mailing out the newsletter and letters to businesses asking for golf donations worked well this year. They were sent out near the end of March.
- Commissioners meeting recap: Ray, Karen, Patty, and Anita attended the commissioners meeting on March 25. They provided each commissioner with a copy of the NCHS mission statement, the 2018 actual financial report, and the proposed 2019 financial report. They asked the commissioners for additional help to cover the \$10,000 shortfall that is expected in 2019. The commissioners suggested that they may be able to provide some additional compensation for 2019, but made no promises. They urged NCHS to present a formal written budget request (in person) for 2020 and beyond, by at least August when they will make their budget for next year. A copy of the formal request was passed around the table for comments or corrections.

New Business:

- Tractor Cruise: Patty has talked to Richard but he has not yet begun actual preparations. He will get back to us soon with updates.
- STEP grant request: Cathy was asked to write a STEP grant request for funding the heating and air conditioning of the sheriff's residence.
- Garage sale: Dates/times for the city-wide garage sale will be
 - Thursday, May 30, 3:00-6:30pm. Anita, Ilene, Patty will work
 - Friday, May 31, 8:00am-6:00pm. Anita, Cathy, Karen will work
 - Saturday, June 1, 8:00am-12:00pm. Anita, Diane, Alma will work
- Museum Day, June 8. 10:00am-3:00pm
 - Sheriff's residence----Joyce, Ilene, Diane will work
 - Military museum----Ray, Alma will work
 - Hand dug well----Bob, (possibly also Dan Runnebaum &/or Buddy Hulsing) will work

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Submitted by Patty Byers, Secretary

Next meeting: August 13, 2019