

Barnes County Historical Society
Thursday, June 2, 2016 5:00 p.m.

Present: Hansen-Leier, Hochhalter, Hoff, Wenzel, Johnson, Jantzen, Froelich, DeMasi, Carlson

Absent: Woehl, Hovland, Dutton, Flatau

Also Present: Anderson, Netland

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Minutes of May 5 meeting: Motion to approve with revisions by Froelich, Second by Hochhalter. Unanimously approved.
2. Treasurer's Report – Balance Sheets, profit and loss statements, bank register
 - a. Income YTD: \$70,954.00
 - b. Expenses YTD: \$42,100.91
 - c. We could move the roof fund money into the general fund since we will not be using it this year. The MDU account is on balance billing. September, October, November, December will bring that down as now it looks like it is over budget. Electric bill is running about \$410 per month, but it is not on balance billing. We should look at balance billing for the electric bill to stabilize the bills and make them more predictable. We have received 91% of the money from Barnes County for the year. We budgeted \$1,000 from grants. This year, we have spent \$2,613.24 on grants.
 - d. There is money in office equipment. A new computer is still being considered. Tech Soup was discussed. The computer currently has Windows 7. QuickBooks is compatible. Meet with Jason Thiel who is the MIS person for the County to review computer options. Select a couple of options and bring them to the board for consideration at the next meeting.

Committees

3. Gift Shop
 - a. May Sales: \$250.45
 - b. YTD Balance: \$3,074.38
 - c. Items ordered for the gift shop totaling \$995.
 - d. Some T-Shirts and bridges are being ordered. We will try to sell them at \$20 each. They should arrive before Community Days. Hooded sweatshirts were mentioned as a possibility. We have more postcards for "Gundy".
 - e. It is getting more difficult to find triceratops merchandise. We have some more fossils in the gift shop. The shark teeth have been popular.
 - f. What do people want?
 - g. The State Historical Society may be able to work with us on bulk purchases that would help lower purchase prices.
 - h. We have some Native American jewelry items in the gift shop. We will explore opportunities to get more of these items.
4. Volunteers
 - a. Carol Ardis was here for a couple of months but has returned to Spokane. We were fortunate to have Alyssa Swanson here. It is difficult to get people to step in. We are very thankful to have Allison Veselka still here.
5. Memberships
 - a. 11 Cards, 4 letters, 16 2nd notices
 - b. Renewed Riveters (\$100): Jan Stowman, Margaret Wieland, Mary and Tom Ritter, Valley Township, Harvey Hochhalter
 - c. Renewed Patrons: Legacy Place, Miller Motors, Heritage Insurance
 - d. Donations: Merry Maids Homemakers
 - e. We need to get a Newsletter published before the Annual Meeting. Hanson-Leier and Carlson will collaborate on the newsletter.

6. Exhibits and Education
 - a. School tours are done. We did the fewest school tours this year than we have ever done.
 - b. We received a digital picture frame from the State Historical Society of North Dakota illustrating the buildings on the National Register of Historical Places. This will help dispel misconceptions about buildings on the Register.
 - c. Allison is interested in creating a booklet on Civil War veterans and women who served during World War II.
 - d. Patrick O'Brien, a student from VCSU, has been very helpful.
 - e. June 23: Steven Simonson: "The Fur Trade in Pre-North Dakota" at 7:30 p.m.
7. Community Outreach –We were honored by the Bluegrass Association for supporting the Bluegrass Jam. Progress is being made on the concession stand at the park. They are seeking around \$30,000 for the project.
8. Site Management—Jay Cink has not done anything with the grants due to illness but hopes to have an answer for us soon. Harold Rotunda visited the museum about the audit. We have not heard more from him yet. It was suggested that copies of the bylaws should be made available to interested board members. The bylaws were updated about two years ago.
9. Collections –Wes wrote a grant to Operation Roundup to help support what we are paying Allison Veselka to work with the collections. DeMasi received a call from Cass County Electric representatives and will meet with them on June 16.
10. Fundraising –We could do triceratops cookies or dino dogs as part of Community Days and Rally in the Valley coming up later this month. We also have Crazy Days coming up on the last Wednesday in July. We could have a unit in the Rally in the Valley parade. We could get signage from Valley Officeworks at a reasonable price. There are also two homecoming parades coming up this Fall.
11. Wes's Report –It has been quiet. We are picking up some tourist traffic. We hope to do something for the all 80's reunion. The 4-H will be holding an expo on June 18 at the museum.
We could do a historical dinner. We could do a historical dinner.

Business: Next Meeting: Annual Meeting--Thursday, June 23, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjourned 5:45: Motion by Hoff, Second by DeMasi. Unanimously approved.