

# **MANDAN Historical Society**



## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**September 12, 2024**

**Location:** Bennigan's Restaurant, Mandan

**Present:** President Porter, Secretary Spilman, Treasurer Engelter, Directors Huettl, Pope Willoughby

**Absent:** Vice President Russell

The meeting was called to order by President Porter at 12:09 a.m. Quorum was present.

### **Officers' Reports**

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes from the May 9, 2024 meeting were reviewed. Two corrections identified. Motion made, seconded & approved via voice vote with two corrections, no additions.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer reported the current checking account balance is \$17,8347.41 after payment of the \$500 annually to ND Railroad Museum for annual payment of museum ground lease and overhead. However, deposit for CONEX box fundraising is incorrect (i.e., \$19.11 not \$9.11). Two other deposits (\$250 in May and \$125 in May not identified) but are likely membership fees. The \$670 annual support from Morton County was deposited as well as \$350 donation from local business for lifetime membership. Report approval tabled until items can be identified. Pointed out there are still pending approved bills that have not been paid.

**Bills Presented for Approval:** \$340 expense associated with moving returned Mandan Pioneer newspapers to storage. \$23 expense associated with purchase of new check blanks at Starion. Motion made, seconded & approved via voice vote for payment of bills presented.

Kathye reported that she sent out previously the PayPal receipt summary for the CONEX box fund via email which now sets at -\$320.89

**Other Directors' Reports:** None offered.

**Committee Reports** (committees without report not noted)

### **Ad Hoc Project Committee – Newspapers Digitalization:**

- For winter, additional returned newspapers will be stored in the museum. Bill reported the available boxcar space is full. Alternate disposition will need to occur before museum opens next summer. Work continues with SHSND staff to coordinate delivery of available hardcopies to the Heritage Center of issues the State is missing.

### **Buildings & Grounds Committee**

- New over door light installed over front entrance to building

### **Communication & Public Relations Committee**

- Webpage Additions (3) – Liberty Memorial Bridge / Tilden Selmes / 1870s Timeline
- McGillic Family Visiting Mandan late September – Related to Langs & Woodmansees
- Multiple Assistance to eMail Inquiries
- Middle School Bell Display – Tabled until volunteer to chair project is identified

### **Donations & Acquisitions Committee**

- Reiterated current policy of receiving donations on an unrestricted basis only – storage, sale or disposal at the sole discretion of the Board appointed committee.
- Exceptions for a special event could be made only with Board approval.

### **Endowment Fund Committee**

- Kathye reported \$700 check inbound from the Endowment Fund earmarked for website expenses and completing the outdoor First St Federal Building cornerstone display. Pope reported the City of Mandan representative had called her to report the check was at City Hall. She indicated she would track it down and assure it got deposited

### **Grant Committee**

- Kathye offered an idea for an event for application for Mandan Visitor Committee grant. Tabled for discussion under New Business.

### **Heritage Home Committee**

- Further action tabled until volunteer to chair project is identified .

### **Membership Committee**

- Three additional memberships received since last meeting. Break down by type presented. Total membership now down 3 from prior year.

### **Museum Operation Committee**

- Total visitation down slightly from prior year. Secretary Spilman retrieved visitor logs
- Museum closed for season. TR letter and Motel Registry removed and in storage.
- Recounted visit from Mayor Froelich this past summer.
- Cash box receipts at the museum for the season total \$30 which he recently deposited to the checking account.

### **Nominating Committee**

- Inquiry as to status of Vice President Russell
- Opened the floor for suggestions of possible replacements for Vice President

**Old Business**

- **BNSF Bridge Replacement Mitigation Video Project**
  - Progress report submitted to SHSND as required by contract

**New Business**

- Kathye suggested exploring a “Souper Bowl Sunday” event for 2025 as a general membership meeting event paired with City of Mandan for “Birthday/Charter Day” Celebration. Potential date is an adjacent weekend to February 23 which is about the same time as the NFL Super Bowl. Could hold event at noon – well before the typical football kickoff at 5:25 pm. No other area organization has event scheduled that day. Would invite current members and advertise to general public in an attempt to expand membership and publish awareness. Provide soup/lunch as enticement to attend. Could possibly fund event with a Visitor Committee Grant next summer to cover expenses. Might be able to secure library community room as event venue at no charge as it would coincide with the library’s staff attempt to promote “history” community it sponsored earlier this year. Also an opportunity to work with the Mandan Progress Organization/Matt Schanandore who is a life member of the Mandan Historical Society
- Melanie offered as a potential program a book promotion for “Let’s Call it Mandan” a children’s book written about Fredric Gerard. Given the book was just about to be published, she suggested not to wait until 2025, Her husband has appropriate attire already to pose as Gerard as part of the program.
- Melanie will check on potential program participants
- Kathye will check with library and MPO staff.

**Next Meeting:** December 5, 2024, Noon at Bennigan’s Restaurant

Motion to adjourn at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathye Spilman  
Secretary

**Approved: TBD**