

ST. MICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES: February 9, 2015

Sheldon Barthel, president, called the board meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:02 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116. Other directors present were Harvey Zahler, Bob Zahler, Harry Welter, Earl Vetsch, Crystal Sayen, Rose Ann Gindele, John Robeck, Steve Barthel, John Jaeb, Wayne Kessler, Lisa Marx, and Calvin Schoen. The minutes from the January 12, 2015 meeting were approved as read.

Reports & Business

President's Report – Sheldon reported that a \$25 check was received from the city of Saint Michael. The check is for the city to become a business member of the Historical Society.

Treasurer's Report – John reported that the balance as of February 9, 2015 is \$9,292.27 with a total of \$20.89 in expenses, and \$775.00 in deposits.

Media Specialist – Crystal reported that there was really nothing new with the Legacy Grant. She reported that we will have to wait and see what happens in the upcoming months. Crystal as well as Steve, reported that the new website is almost ready to launch. PayPal is also working smoothly.

Newsletter – The first newsletter of the year went out in February.

Membership – Sheldon reported that we have 104 members on the roster, but 18 members still remain delinquent for their 2015 dues.

Curator - Bob reported that he had some photos that would help Ken Zylla with the painting. He received photos from Sharon Barthel showing Central Avenue from sometime in the 1950s. The pictures of Ray Holthaus, Benno Zachman, and Otto Dalheiden's farms have been enlarged. Bob was able to look through historic pieces kept by the Welter family. These include photos of the family, farm, and church. Some as far back as the 1870s. The Welters also had documents from Germany that Bob was able to scan.

Website - Steve reported that he has added some more information, but is waiting for the new website to be up and running. He reported that 79 more lines have been added and that nearly 60% of information is connected to Family Tree.

Interview Committee – Harvey Zahler was appointed to the committee. The members had some good ideas on who they should interview in the near future.

Old Business – Bob reported on the progress with the Ken Zylla project. The painting is between $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ complete. The colors are very bright and clear. Ken has added the old fire engine as well as a couple of other vehicles from the early 1960s era.

New Business – Crystal and Steve met with a member of Kaul Design. He was curious with what we as a society wanted exactly for our website. Things such as website access, board member emails, and the online store were discussed. The question of who would be in charge of the shipping/checking of items from the online store was brought up as well. The possibilities of members paying dues online and placing lots of information into PDF files was talked about. Steve also informed us that language translators would be put on the new website. With these, people from other countries would be able to access the information of our website in their own language. Crystal and Steve reported that there are a lot of little things that can be worked out, but that we should first concentrate on getting the main website fully set up. Bob reported that he took care of the annual IRS E file.

Announcements – The next meeting will take place on March 9, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116.

Adjournment – Harry motioned to end the meeting; Lisa seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Calvin Schoen, secretary