

ST. MICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES: April 8th, 2013; Annual and Regular Board Meetings

Annual Meeting

Bob Zahler, President, called the annual Board Meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:02 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116. The directors present were Stephen Barthel, Matthew Eynck, John Jaeb, Wayne Kessler, Lisa Marx, Harvey Zahler, Harry Welter, Earl Vetsch and Crystal Sayen.

2012 Year In Review – Bob briefly reviewed the year of 2012 and the progress the society has made in getting into the “groove” of being in the new building. It has been a rigorous process moving in, but the society now feels comfortable in the building.

2012 Financial Review – John presented the financial report and Bob brought up the fact that the society still has money left over from a \$5,000 donation from the Carlsons.

Elections – The chair declared that the slate of nominees (Sheldon Barthel, Rose Anne Gindele, Brendan Sage, Dan Lenz, and John Robeck) was re-elected for a three-year term since no other nominations were made.

Adjournment – Harry motioned to end the meeting and Lisa seconded it; the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM.

Regular Board Meeting

Bob Zahler, President, called the Board Meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:09 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116. The minutes from the March 11th meeting were approved as read.

President’s Report – Bob shared that one of Steve’s books on the Ayt family sold on the website.

Treasurer’s Report – The balance was reported to be at \$7,506.64 with a total of \$0.00 in expenses, and \$75.00 in deposits.

Website – As of the evening of the 8th of April, our website visits numbered at 502,052; which was a 34,193 visit increase from the last meeting. Steve shared that the Stearns History Museum is selling biographical files they have on hand and he mentioned the possibility of obtaining the files. He is working on scanning and creating PDF files from funeral cards. Also, Bob reminded the members of the completion of the “new” and “old” cemetery files, and one can essentially take a “virtual” tour of both on the website.

Media Specialist – Crystal had nothing to report, but mentioned of recruiting some “young blood” to the society.

Newsletter – Two articles in the next newsletter will contain the Gustaf Devue story and the cemetery “clean up” event. Steve mentioned safety clarifications to insert in the cemetery article and that he was in contact with Duane and Kathy Barthel. The two suggested of meeting first at a central location and restricting participation from children and elderly. Steve is currently workout out the “kinks” of the cemetery legalities.

Membership – Sheldon shared that there were a total of 95 members with a gain of eight members and loss of eleven in the past year. He also received a \$25 check and membership application from the Hanover Historical Society. Bob recommended sending the society an email stating that they are not obligated to pay for a membership. It was also brought to the board’s attention that Perry and Barb Zachman were curious as to whether they could acquire a free membership for hosting the website at no cost. Wayne motioned to grant Barb and Perry Zachman a year membership for every year of hosting the website; the motion carried.

Old Business – A few details still need to be worked out with the upcoming cemetery event. Also, Bob expressed the idea of purchasing a digital photo display for the display case; the idea was tabled pending more information.

New Business – There was a motion made by Harry and seconded by Lisa to stick with the same board meeting calendar used in 2012; the motion carried. The historic church was in contact with a company that will restore the tower clock works and possibly illuminate the clock face. Bob gave his opinion on illumination; he reminded the society that illumination is not a new idea and is historically appropriate. He believes it would strengthen the “community aspect” of the landmark. The finance committee of the church asked the historical society to be the “face” of the fundraising for the illumination aspect of the project. A motion was made by Matthew for the society to act as the “face” for the illumination of the clock and it was seconded by Wayne; the motion carried. Bob also brought up the quickly approaching “Daze and Knights” festival and whether or not the society will take part in the unconvincing booth again. The question was tabled.

Announcements – The next meeting will take place on May 13th at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116.

Adjournment – Harry motioned to end the meeting; Earl seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Brendan Sage, Secretary