

ST. MICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES: August 13, 2018

Calvin Schoen, president, called the board meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room. Other directors present were Sheldon Barthel, Bob Zahler, Lisa Marx, Harry Welter, Earl Vetsch, Steve Barthel, Lyle Barthel, Dan Lenz, John Jaeb, Brendan Sage, Dick Swanson, and Harvey Zahler. The minutes from the June 11, 2018 meeting were read and approved without amendments.

President's Report –Calvin displayed recent donations from Geneva Burke of small advertising items and business cards from St. Michael businesses, mostly from the 1980s onward.

Treasurer's Report –Lisa reported that the balance on 6/11/18 was \$12,156.33. The balance as of 8/13/18 is \$12,140.41. Expenses since the last report were \$55.92 and deposits were \$40.00. The balance of the Endowment Fund is \$1,415.49.

Media Specialist – Crystal was not present to report.

Membership – Sheldon reported that membership as of this meeting remains at 103 members.

Curator -Bob reported that the office computer's internet security software has been renewed for another year. There was an inquiry regarding Zachman family history and he was taking care of it.

Newsletter – Bob reported that he is currently working on the August newsletter which will feature a longer-than-usual article on the history of the STMA school district. He mentioned that he was at the MN History Center in July and located a file with correspondence from between 1962 and 1967 between the Department of Education and the local school boards. While some of this research is being done for the District's 50th Anniversary celebration, any information and photos that he finds will become part of our collection.

Website - Steve reported that he has now input 4223 lines of data.

Old Business -Likely due to lack of advertising, nobody showed for Steve's pre-meeting genealogy presentation. He will try again in September. Bob mentioned that he can get a notice in the Crow River News if sent a reminder. Calvin updated the board on new social media accounts for the society. Brendan created accounts on Twitter and Instagram. Bob suggested that if Calvin or Brendan were to remind him, that he would send an old photo and caption to post. Bob updated the board on the search for the original cemetery near Berning's Mill. He had difficulty getting a hold of archeology experts in July but finally spoke to the Assistant State Archeologist who confirmed that ground penetrating radar was our best option and suggested a firm to contact for assistance. No action has been taken on historic markers, but it was suggested that those could go up anytime and even near sites where no physical remains exist. Bob also explained more about the statue idea that was tabled from June. He said that he emailed Steve Bot and Mark Weigl on the idea of erecting a statue honoring the pioneer settlers in the proposed city park. The response was positive but park plans were not developing quickly at this point. Bob will make contact with people he knows in the Twin Cities arts community for ideas on artists, costs, and possible grants.

New Business –Calvin said that he is taking photos of current construction sites so that we have a record of the many changes taking place around town.

Announcements – The next meeting will take place September 10th at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room.

Adjournment – Motion to adjourn was made by Harry, seconded by Lisa. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Zahler, acting secretary