

SHAKOPEE HERITAGE SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPT. 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Lois Wendt. Members present were Melissa Whiting, Dave Schleper and Don McNeil.

The secretary's report from the July board meeting was read and approved. We didn't meet in Aug. due to the fundraiser for the POSH project. The treasurer's report was read and approved. We have \$29625.92 in the bank, of which \$24987.46 is for the POSH project.

We discussed Wes' e-mail about the cost for 2 data backup units. It was moved and seconded that Dave would purchase the units to back up all our materials. Motion passed. The cost will be about \$130.00. Melissa will provide Dave with a check on Sat. at the Cemetery tour.

Lois will be unable to attend the cemetery tour on Sat. but gave Melissa the list of 14 attendees. Lois called all those on the original list for the tour that was cancelled in May due to rain. If it rains on Sat. we will meet at the library downstairs meeting room instead. We will meet at 10:00 at the windmill.

We are all trying to find a speaker for the Oct. membership meeting. Dave will be out of town for that date.

Dave reported that we have applied for a grant for the POSH project through the MN Historical Society. He received some help from a Pond-Dakota society member and the feedback from last year's attempt. Hopefully we have a better chance this year. The grant is for \$39,000 and would help us a lot. Jay will be meeting with someone from public works soon to decide exactly where the signs should be located. We hope to get some of the footings in this fall. The Park & Rec. board said they would have a banner made up that says "History Park coming soon!" We'll have to follow up on that.

We are going to donate some books to be given away as door prizes at Dave's talks at the senior center this fall. Melissa will bring these on Sat. also.

Dave is almost done with the first 3 of his books on various topics that will sell for \$10 each or \$8 for SHS members.

We had approved \$600 awhile back for ISBN numbers, registration and copyrights for 10 of Dave's books. He did some research and found that the cost will really be \$934.00. We voted to purchase these anyway with a \$1000 limit.

Feedback to the POSH fundraiser was given. We all thought it went well and was a lot of fun. The POSH committee is planning another one for next year.

City council member Mike Luce filed a police report saying that Jay Whiting stole funds from SHS to restore his Rock Spring Bottling Works truck. He said that because Jay's wife (Melissa Whiting) gave him the funds because she had recently become the treasurer. Mike reported to the paper that he didn't have any proof or evidence to back up the story. Originally the Rock Spring Truck was purchased by the SHS with the intent that there would be a group of people that would help restore it. A couple board members at the time thought it was a bad idea to start a project like that so Jay said he would buy the truck from the SHS. Jay provided the police with a copy of the purchase agreement between the SHS and himself, a copy of the SHS checkbook ledger and the treasurer's reports from 2007 (when this all happened) to prove that he paid for the truck in full. The truck has been restored since 2011 and Melissa just became treasurer in Aug. so the whole story was a fabrication. Jay e-mailed copies of all the SHS minutes, etc. so it could be put on the website, but Wes didn't want to put it on there as there was nothing to the charges and thought it best to just let the story die. The rest of the board agreed. We have documentation if anyone needs to see it.

Lois got a message on her phone from an irate woman claiming she had lived all her life in Shakopee and hated the town, the SHS and the POSH project. She said she grew up poor and no one had ever given her money. Dave said he had seen some of her posts on the Concerned Citizens page and wasn't shocked at her behavior. He told Lois to save the message in case she called back and threatened anything, but Lois won't call the police for now. We are hoping that was just an isolated incident.

Dave is working on the newsletter articles.

We adjourned at 7:50.