Minutes  
Siouxland Heritage Museums  
Board Meeting  
Thursday, January 2, 2014  
Law Library, Old Courthouse Museum  

Present: Virgil Andersen, Marty DeWitt, Ron Helwig, Mike MacDonald, Michelle Erpenbach, Dianne Metli, Bill Hoskins,  

Absent: Jeff Barth, Bob Kolbe, Arthur Kriens, Roger Terveen  

Bill Hoskins called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.  

Bill introduced the new members of the Museum Board for 2014.  

The Nominating Committee reported to the board and placed Virgil Andersen in nomination for Chairman of the Board, Marty DeWitt for Vice Chair and Mike MacDonald Secretary. Michelle moved the slate of officers be accepted and that unanimous ballot be cast. The motion was seconded by Tim. The Slate of Officers was elected.  

The gavel passed to Virgil Andersen.  

The minutes of the November Special Meeting and December Meeting were approved as published.  

Story on Bob Kolbe and his collections.  

Reports:  

Dianne Metli reported upon the Museums Alliance. The Alliance Board Meets at 5:30 PM on January 9 to review the proposed 2014 Budget for the Alliance. The Alliance Annual Meeting will be held at the Pettigrew Home and Museum on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 6:00 PM. The program for the evening will be the dress rehearsal for the Murder Mystery.  

All 2013 Budgets ended the year in the black. Bill briefly reviewed the Museum Budgets for 2014.  

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director presented the Director’s Report for December including some highlights for the month. Highlights included:  
  • Attendance for 2013 was 81,055 (down slightly from 2012) the 2nd highest attendance year in the Museum’s History. Attendance has increased 35% since 2000.
• The Vietnam Exhibit closed on December 2. The new exhibit “Prairie Traveler” is being installed and is scheduled to open on January 9, 2014.
• The new Hallway exhibit on “Dolls” was installed by Molly and Clarissa.
• The Alliance Annual meeting will be January 23 at the Pettigrew. The program will be the dress rehearsal for the Murder Mystery. Tickets for the Murder Mystery program go on sale January 4.
• Friday Concerts in the Courtroom have been well attended and continue Fridays at Noon through January.

Regular Business

Bill handed out information on the Museum Board Committees and a sign up for Board Committees in 2014.

Bill briefly reviewed the status of the Collections Center project. RFP’s for realtor services are out December 17. Proposals will be opened January 16 and the contract awarded January 28.

There was some discussion of the process of moving the collection. Ron asked if we would be employing temporary muscle. Bill said no that the staff would do the majority of the work because we need to keep tight control of the collections.

Ron brought up the establishment of a fund with Minnehaha County to receive private funds for the collections center. Bill reminded the Board of their resolution in that regard in September. The resolution was forwarded to the Minnehaha County Commission and they have not yet taken action on that request. The thought is that they are waiting for the sale of the land to see what may be needed. Bill also said that the Enterprise Fund is our principle fund into which donations go on an annual basis. Bill thought that it would be an excellent idea to use the Museum Newsletter to promote those things we need to have donated.

Bill briefly reviewed the anticipated Exhibits program for 2014.

The meeting Adjourned at 12:24 PM.

Museum Mission: “The Siouxland Heritage Museums is dedicated to enhancing the experience of learning for our community, its families and visitors through collections, preservation and interpretation of history”