Minutes
Siouxland Heritage Museums
Board Meeting
Thursday, September 3, 2015
Law Library, Old Courthouse Museum

Present: Museum Board; Virgil Andersen, Jeff Barth, Marty DeWitt, Ron Helwig, Mike MacDonald, Dianne Metli, Michael Mullin, Kermit Staggers

Museum Staff; Bill Hoskins, Museum Director

Public: None

Board Members Absent: Roger Terveen, Arthur Kriens, Bob Kolbe

Virgil Andersen called the meeting to order at 11:33 AM.

Ron Helwig moved to adopt the Minutes of the August Museum Board Meeting as published. The motion was seconded by Dianne Metli. Motion passed and the minutes were adopted.

Bill Hoskins passed around several e-mails from patrons thanking staff for outstanding performance of their work. Bill also passed around the Association of South Dakota Museums Newsletter with a story regarding the Annual Meeting which was hosted at the Old Courthouse Museum in May.

Dianne Metli delivered the Report of the Siouxland Heritage Museums Alliance. Dianne reported upon the Historic Homes Tour and the Alliance Pork Raffle on July 23. Dianne reported that 278 attended the Homes Tour.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director reviewed the budgets for the Siouxland Heritage Museums for July, 2015. Bill responded to several questions regarding the Maintenance Budgets for the Old Courthouse and Pettigrew Museums, the status of some of the projects and their impact on budget. Dianne moved to accept the Financial Report as published. Marty seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director delivered the Director’s Report for August, 2015. Bill highlighted some of the activities of the past month:

Siouxland Heritage museums overall attendance is up 6.4% for 2015 at the end of August.

Museum staff presented 43 programs on and off site to 4,178 people and 193 tours of the Pettigrew Home.

Museum Staff presented programming at the Sioux Empire Fair August 3-7 to 2,390 people.
The Fort Dakota Exhibit opened at the Old Courthouse Museum on July 16. Museum Interns, Carolyn Johnson and Brianna Williamson completed their internships at the Museum on August 14. Automatic Security replaced a smoke detector at the Pettigrew in August. ABC replaced three smoke detectors at the Old Courthouse Museum following a lightning strike on August 27. Staff repainted six 3rd floor windows at the Old Courthouse Museum in August. Six of the basement windows were re-glazed. Eight of the storm windows are being re-conditioned and re-glazed. The 2016 Budget for the Museum was adopted in the Joint Budget Hearing on August 25. The Museum land is listed with Nelson Property Consultants. Sanford removed the temporary road across the land which facilitated the Construction of the Pentagon, Ice Complex and Tennis Complex. Adam Nelson, Marketing Coordinator, attended his first meeting of the Board of the Southeast South Dakota Tourism. The preliminary design for contract exhibits for Stockyards Plaza Incorporated were completed and submitted. Educational Services Booklet with revised fee structure was completed. The Rental Booklet is at the printer with it’s revised fees.

Bill Hoskins reviewed upcoming programs, exhibits work and rentals. He also reviewed a proposal from SD PBS to do 10 segments on the Siouxland Heritage Museums Artifacts. And a 30 Minute feature on the Pettigrew Home and Museum. The publicity is great, but we will also be paid $150 per segment.

Bill Hoskins brought up budgets and mentioned 89% of the Museum’s Public Support goes for Human Resources, 9.4% for building maintenance, and 6% for operational expenses. The approved Enterprise Fund budget projects a 28.9% increase in revenue. Human Resources Costs in the Enterprise Fund represent 25% ($60,693). The Museum Endowment is a key piece of the revenue for the Enterprise Fund providing 4% of the annual balance over the last 8 quarters or approximately $40,000 at this time. Bill Stated that he feels that for the long term financial security of the Museum System a focus over the next five years has to be building the Museum’s Endowment. Bill feels that although continued Government support of the Museums is key, financial reality means we have to generate much more revenue. Bill stated that he felt that the Government support for Operational expenses will continue to decline and be shifted to the Enterprise Fund. We have increased fees for rentals, programs and exhibit services. Some of those changes we will not see the full effect of until 2017. The endowment seems to be the best course for lasting revenue. Jeff Barth asked how it would take to make the Museum’s Independent. Virgil Andersen estimated at least $30 Million. Michael Mullin commented that there are some matching grants for Endowment development. There was general discussion. Bill suggested that the Board start by inviting Candy Hanson, President of the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation to a Board Meeting this fall to discuss Endowment development and how we might go about aggressively
building the fund. The Museum Board Finance Committee should also meet to discuss other possible proposals for adjusting the Museum Funding for the future. Virgil directed Bill Hoskins to check dates and contact the committee members to set up a meeting.

The Museum Endowment Advisory Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 9, at 11:30 AM at the Old Courthouse Museum.

Mike MacDonald commented that the Museum Staff has been presenting an number of OLLIE Classes through the University Center. Bill Hoskins class on the American Civil War filled in ½ hour. The instructor fee are going to the Museum. On behalf of the OLLIE Board Mike thanked the Board for the Staff’s efforts.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:35 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”