



## Minutes

Board Meeting

Siouxland Heritage Museums

Thursday, July 9, 2020, 11:30 AM

Conference Room, Irene Hall Museum Resource Center, 4300 N. Westport Avenue

Board Present: Nikki Gronli, Dianne Metli, Pat Starr, Jeff Barth, Jerry Beckler, Tim Schendel, Kim Koblank, Liz Squyer, Greg Olsen.

Board Absent: Roger Buechler, Alison Struck

Others in attendance: Bill Hoskins, Museum Director, Craig Dewey

Kim Koblank called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

Minutes of the June 4 meeting: “The Museum Board discussed holding the July Board Meeting which would fall on July 2 on July 9. Jeff moved to not hold a meeting in July”. The word “Not” was removed. Minutes of the June 4, 2020 were approved as amended.

Bill Hoskins announced the passing of Dr. Gary Olson, History Professor at Augustana College, age 80, on June 30, 2020. He was the First Chairman of the Siouxland Heritage Museums Board, a recipient of the Siouxland Heritage Museums Award and a great public historian.

Greg Olsen delivered a brief report on the Museum Alliance. The Historic Homes Tour has been cancelled for 2020. The next meeting of the Alliance Board is scheduled for Thursday, August 6.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director, delivered a financial update to the board regarding Museum budgets as of July 1, 2020. Tim moved to accept the financial report. Nikki seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director delivered a report on the Museum Operation over the last month. Highlights include: Re-opening of the Museums to the public; Old Courthouse Museum on June 1, Pettigrew Home and Museum June 4, the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center on June 8. Re-opening was with limited hours and visitor limits. There was no programming in June and there were no rentals. July 6, the Museums resumed normal summer hours. Limited programming, tours of the historic house and rentals will begin in July.



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Bill discussed the American Association for States and Local History's (AASLH) Visitors Count program which the Museum was scheduled to engage in this spring. It has been delayed and will happen in August.

Bill Hoskins discussed several security incidents at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center and the Old Courthouse Museum in recent months. Bill received bids from Midwest Alarms for additional cameras to cover the plaza at the Old Courthouse Museum and the parking lots at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center. These are not in the current budget, but there are several funding options. Jeff thought that the County Building Fund may be a source of funding. Pat thought that the City and County should split the cost of security upgrades. Tim moved that the Museum immediately move forward with additional security cameras. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote. Jeff said he would contact Carol Muller in this regard.

Bill Hoskins, discussed with the Board a Museum Store Project with author Suzanne Fuller. The Museum would serve as the publisher of a book entitled "The Girl Who Moved to the Town that Wasn't There". The project is nearing completion and the book should be delivered from the printer in Late August. Suzanne Fuller will be a featured author at the South Dakota Festival of the Book scheduled for October 2-4 in Brookings. Several author talks and book signings are planned for this fall. Kim inquired to what age range the authors talks were aimed. Bill said he believed that they are mostly geared for adults. There is some concern over if any non-essential individuals will be allowed inside the schools.

The Museum Board discussed holding the August Board Meeting for August 6, 2020 and decided that it will be held at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center with a Zoom option.

In other business Jeff Barth discussed the Minnehaha County Abandoned Cemetery Board for the Museum Board's information. He reviewed briefly the Cemetery Boards responsibilities, function, volunteer board and some of the changes that are taking place. Margaret Novak, the long time President of the Board has stepped down. They are looking for a meeting place. There was no Museum Board Action.

Jeff moved to adjourn the meeting Nikki seconded the motion. The motion passed at 12:23.

The next Museum Board Meeting will be Thursday, August 6, 2020, 11:30 AM at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center, 4300 N. Westport Avenue.

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"*

