

Germania Historical Society, Inc.

General Membership Meeting - Sunday, September 8, 2024

10:00 a.m. at the Historical Society Church, Germania, WI

MINUTES

Board members present: President Kevin DeCramer, Vice President Kim Ross,

Treasurer Missy Heller, Secretary Carole DeCramer

Attendees: Jerry Ross, Marian Heller, Neal Cain, Jill Cain, Tom Gaulke, Mike Vosen,
Diane Vosen, Miles Chambers, Bob Pickart, Jim Chlebek, Pam Chlebek, Sue Schatzke,

George Weiss, Bob Pickart, Jayne Pickart

Call to order and welcome

10:04 a.m. Kevin DeCramer welcomed the attendees and reminded everyone to sign in.

Approve agenda

Motion by Tom Gaulke/Ronda Goldsmith, unanimously carried, to approve the agenda.

Approve minutes of 08/04/24

Motion by Mike Vosen/Jill Cain, unanimously carried, the minutes were approved as
presented.

Approve board meeting minutes of 08/30/24

Motion by Missy Heller/Kim Ross, unanimously carried, the board meeting minutes were
approved as presented.

Kim reported that the board met on August 30th to decide how the William Tagatz donation of \$70,000 should be disbursed. Interest rates were checked for many of the area banks. Kim negotiated with National Exchange Bank and Trust (Montello) for a better interest rate, and they offered 5% for seven months. The board had decided to deposit \$50,000 into a certificate of deposit, leaving \$20,000 to begin repairs on the school. Priorities for the school include electricity, septic, and a well.

Approve treasurer's report

Missy Heller presented the treasurer's report. The beginning balance is \$88,964.81. There were no deposits; the one expense was for a tax form (990 Form). If the income for the historical society is less than \$50,000, the 990 Form must be used. Next year, with the Tagatz donation, a different form will have to be used.

Motion by Jill Cain/Marian Heller, unanimously carried, to approve the treasurer's report as presented.

2 Germania Historical Meeting Minutes 09/08/2024

Committee reports:

- Go-Fund-Me Account (Kim Ross)

No update.

- Raffle (Don Heller)

In Don's absence, Missy Heller reported that tickets are now being sold for the next gun raffle.

- Fundraisers (Missy Heller and Kim Ross)

The upcoming wine walk was discussed under new business on the agenda.

Facilities:

- Creamery (Missy Heller)

Missy reported that the creamery is beyond repair. Perhaps a replica could be made so that people can see what it looked like when it was in full operation.

- Outhouses (Kevin DeCramer)

Kevin stated that some repairs need to be done on the church outhouses before winter.

- School projects (Bob Pickart)

At the board meeting of August 30th, the board made a motion that directed Bob Pickart to contact Adams Columbia Electric Cooperative to complete the required forms and pay the fees to get electricity to the school. Bob will work with Kim on this.

- School playground equipment/grounds (Jon Syverson)

No update.

- School cleaning and painting (Sue Schatzke)

No update until there is electricity and water.

Ongoing project reports:

- ACEC grant (Kevin DeCramer)

Kevin will revisit the grant requirements to determine which of the building projects would be eligible for grant money.

- Membership (Kim Ross)

Kim explained that the annual membership dues are due on November 1st. Notices will be sent out to those that pay annually. If dues are not paid, names will be taken off the membership list.

- Technology/Social Media (Kim Ross)

3 Germania Historical Meeting Minutes 09/08/2024

No update.

- Germania Princeton papers chronicle (Kevin DeCramer)

Kevin reported that this project will continue during the winter months.

Old Business:

- Church entry roof

Missy explained that Don has the handrail for the church stairs, and it just needs to be installed. The entryway roof will be replaced as soon as the supplies are purchased.

- Germania Historical Society web page administration

Missy explained that the web design individual (Vicky) has agreed to create a new web page for the historical society. She has obtained all of the necessary information she needs to begin this project. When she is finished creating the new site, she will contact Missy.

- Wood available at school

Kevin told the members that, after a tree fell at the school, there is wood available for anyone that is interested. Kim said that, if no one else is interested, her son-in-law would

come and get it.

New business:

- Wine walk, potluck, bonfire

Sue Schatzke thanked Kim Ross for all of the work she has done in preparing for the wine walk that is scheduled for September 21 st , 2:00-4:00 p.m., rain or shine. Kim explained what has been done so far and what still needs to be done. She attended a Town of Shields town board meeting and the necessary permits were approved. Wine glasses that will have the Germania Historical Society logo are ordered. Advance tickets will be sold for \$20 per person. Tickets sold that day will be \$25. There will be six tables that the walkers can visit and will be located in relatively close proximity to each other. There will be a 50/50 cash raffle. Vendors will be on site from noon-4:00 p.m. Non-alcoholic wine will also be available. Kim will get money for change that day. Volunteers are needed. A list of what may be needed at each table is as follows and should be provided by those that are each

table:

1. Some kind of palate cleanser; i.e. cheese and sausage tray, crackers, seasoned oyster crackers, etc.
2. Folding table, canopy
3. Umbrellas, if rain predicted
4. Wine bottle opener
5. Trash receptacle
6. Cooler with ice (Longbranch will provide the ice)
7. Water for rinsing glasses

4 Germania Historical Meeting Minutes 09/08/2024

8. Possible items at each table:
 - a. Membership forms
 - b. List of wines being served
 - c. A map of all the historical sites

d. Alcohol license

After the wine walk, there will be a potluck for interested society members with a bonfire to follow at the school.

- Wisconsin Historical Society Preservation Conference

- A Little Bit of History

Agenda Item Suggestions

Adjournment

10:58 a.m. Motion by Jill Cain/Ronda Goldsmith, unanimously carried, to adjourn.

Approved