

Ankeny Area Historical Society Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 24, 2022

**Attending:** Jeanne Uhl, Karla Kasper, Jason Duke, Chris Schumaker, Joe Pitts, JoAnn Adamson, Elaine Brazelton, Jim Nervig, Tom Jones, Will Moore, Lois O'Donnell, John Stratton, Jo Ellen Nervig.

**Minutes** from the April Board and Members meeting were reviewed without corrections. Elaine made a motion to approve, Karla seconded, motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report** was reviewed by Jim N. Jim stated he has placed the Springer donation of \$5000 and the John Deere donation of \$1000 into Donations category. Lois suggested that the John Deere money be moved into Grants instead. JoAnn motioned to accept, Elaine seconded. Motion carried.

Office Manager Report:

- Rose will report next month on the meeting with Mr. Henry Giese Ankeny regarding donations. Karla Wright also met with him at Iowa State Historical Museum and Lois will check in with Karla.
- Robert Economaci is looking into ways to possibly get the old Nagle school purchased and moved into an Ankeny location before it can be torn down due to the land being purchased. AAHS cannot take any financial responsibility for the project, but it could possibly collaborate.
- May 26 AAHS has been invited to Johnston Historical Museum for a central Iowa's historical museums meeting. These meetings were started to help museums collaborate and share thoughts on fund raising, project ideas, maintaining and recruiting members, etc.
- Membership activity: 4 new businesses have joined and 4 have renewed this month with 16 members renewing. \$200 was received with these as extra donations. Thanks Membership Committee. Memorials from the Springer, Waller and Houge families were received and appreciated totaling \$5455. Another \$175 in donations were also received.

**Grants/Fundraising:** We are waiting to hear from Polk County about 2 grant requests.

**New Business:**

- Open houses on Saturdays for June 10-12 during Farmer's Market sign up sheet is available now. Be sure the new signs are placed at AMP and AAHS.
- There was a discussion about how to vote for the updates of the By-Laws. The general consensus is to have them posted on the website for members to vote. More on this later.
- *Ice Cream Social:* Karla and JoAnn have things progressing, jobs sorted out. They have arranged for a better flow for serving and paying; music has been lined up; Chris will help with games for kids in the yard. Membership forms and forms for purchasing bricks will be available.
- Dennis Adamson unavailable to review information on changing phone and Internet services.

**Maintenance:** Lois requested a new light bulb be placed in the furnace room of the Barn. She also reported that Todd Schlenker had been to the Barn to check on the sump pump. If it continues to be a problem, he recommends replacing it.

**Opportunities:** Rose will report next month about the Summer Camp idea proposed by Tara Tyler Gentile. John will be in contact with Evan Albaugh about the times he would like to work for his summer internship to include coal mining and making slides for the Barn Parlor among others.

**Projects:**

- Joe has put in posts for the new signs for the Bell. He will also look into repair needs of the lattice on the south side of Barn.

- Tom passed around a copy the layout of the Bell sign and a sample of the type of material to be used for it. He requested 2 quotes for the plaque to be placed on the bell but has received only 1 to date which is \$739. This is a metal plaque with raised letters so it would look similar to the plaque currently on the base of he Bell. Tom thinks the other quote will likely be near the same price.
- Lois reviewed the Project Spreadsheet. A Maintenance committee is needed. Joe has been taking over our needs to date, but he needs help. Lawn mowing was discussed. Jason will work the with John Deere group with this. He will keep in contact with John if they are unable to do it occasionally so a member volunteer can be contacted to help at those times.

**Unfinished Business:**

- The updated AAHS flyer is done and going to print.
- Joe has started work on the front sign. If help is needed on that, the John Deere group could be contacted to assist.
- Endowment/Sustainability is ongoing.
- Lois reports there are Insurance issues noted with allowing other groups not associated with AAHS to use the basement for meetings/events. This can be revisited & more inquiries made.

**Elections Committee:** A committee is needed to recruit positions. Chris volunteered to help. JoAnn already has one gentleman who wishes to be on the board, recommended by Bob Fontana. The committee will be ongoing until elections are completed this fall.

**Public Relations:** Lois states AAHS will be featured in this Sunday's paper about FLOPPY. Also, the Spring Newsletter has been passed to Dennis Adamson, who will send it to the school for printing.

**Future events:**

- After the Ice Cream Social there are no plans for other events except the Pumpkin Fundraiser (October) and the Cookie Walk (December). Some suggestions were the Night at the Museum, Halloween Party/ Chili Cook Off, speakers, and another Murder Mystery relating to Enterprise as the last Mystery was well attended. Events are to help keep Ankeny Residents and Members be aware of AAHS and its support of Ankeny and its history, to bring some free events for community education and enjoyment, and fund raisers to help AAHS with needed projects.
- Other ongoing suggestions: Bingo night at Legion Hall, All Ankeny Trivia night, Homecoming Barbeque or Wagner Park Picnic.
- 2023 will be 120 years since Ankeny's incorporation.
- 2025 will be Ankeny's Sesquicentennial. We will be taking part in this event.
- Partnering with the District to honor former land owners of DMOP, ISU Research farm.

**Motion to adjourn** made by Elaine, seconded by Karla. Motion passed.

**Next meeting is June 28 at 5:30 p.m.**

Jo Ellen Nervig