

# Ankeny Area Historical Society Board Meeting Minutes

## November 22, 2022

**Attending:** John Stratton, Lois O'Donnell, Karla Kasper, Sandra McClure, Jim Nervig, JoAnn and Terry Adamson, Jo Ellen Nervig, Elaine Brazelton, Chris Schumacher, Jeanne Uhl, Tom Jones and Carmine Boal.

President John Stratton calls meeting to order at 5:57 p.m.

**Minutes:** from October 25, 2022 were reviewed and Tom Jones noted correction that he attended, so his name needs added. Also correct Carmine Boal's name spelling. Correction also made to remove JoAnn's name from brochure work under "Grants/Fundraising". Motioned by Karla Kasper and 2nd by JoEllen Nervig to approve with three corrections as noted. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jim Nervig reported on treasurer's report through November 21, 2022. Paid for memorial bench and new office light this past month, along with \$2,500 to Rosemary (from 2022 Polk County Community Betterment Grant) for Past Perfect data entry work. Chris Schumacher made the motion to approve the report, JoEllen Nervig 2<sup>nd</sup>. Report approved.

### Office Manager's Report:

- Review of membership activity, donations, merchandise sales and memorials received this month.
- Memberships = 283, not including some outstanding renewal reminders.

### Grants/Fundraising:

- The Uptown train will be rented for \$80 for upcoming Santa Event. Grant money will be used to cover the cost plus \$250 for Santa.
- News from Bravo that we can contact the Ankeny Schools to use Bravo funds for K-5 students to learn their local culture.
- Pumpkins – \$9,877.47 was raised. Rexroats are giving about \$1,200 through Principal, which will push the total to \$11,000 once those funds are received. Approximately 1,989 pumpkins were delivered this year. Elaine said she and Jim will do again next year and asked JoAnn to talk to Jensen about planting, etc. next year's pumpkins. Will we use Linda Schlenker's patch next year? Rexroats picked about 85% and delivered most, while Jim Harkin and others cut and stacked during daytime. We need to figure out who will be able to replace Rexroats who were available during daytime. Jensens were sent a thank you and \$250 check. Maybe put Jensen's name on a sign? John declared a successful business season.

### Election of Officers:

- JoAnn introduces new Vice President Carmine Boal, who is happy to serve. John calls for motion to approve nominations. Elaine Brazelton made a motion to approve and Tom Jones 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.
- JoAnn thanks John, Tom Jones and Karla Kasper for their service.
- Lois presents John Stratton an award plaque for his 3 years of service. John says it's been interesting and successful.

### Opportunities:

- Trunk or Treat went well, along with Pumpkin and Pints. Both were fun.

- Winter Events – Four volunteers will direct traffic and help get children on and off the train, as well as help with Santa on December 10<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4. Discussion was made regarding parking options and train route options. May need barricades for parking lot. Helpers needed to move tables Wednesday morning from storage to house basement. 27 cookie tickets on-line have been sold, per Sandy. Discussed need for more cookies.

#### **New Business:**

- Budget passed last month per John Stratton. John asked for motion to approve 2023 budget, which includes a \$6,000 increase. Jim explains last year we paid \$1100 to file a nonprofit tax return. Lois notes \$39,430 is income from memberships and memorials. John calls for motion. Jim Nervig made the motion, Karla Kasper 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

#### **Programs/Tours:**

- School Tours –Discussion regarding desire to have Ankeny school students tour the museums again. Rose has discussed with school representative and was told this no longer fits into current school curriculum. Lois asked how can we get more kids into our events next year? Maybe come up with more middle school ideas in order to try to involve more families. We will need to develop something to take to them – “Here’s how your community looked then and here it is now” ... especially for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Some 7<sup>th</sup> grade history teachers wondered how to tie it in unless we did about immigration. JoAnn suggested we have members go to school along with video of our presentations. Needs further consideration to brainstorm more ideas, per John Stratton.
- Rose has been working on museum programs for 2023. The list was presented at the September 2022 meeting.

#### **Public Relations:**

- Spring newsletter input is due by February 1st, so it can go out in March.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- The West Des Moines Historical Society has invited us to attend a holiday party on December 19<sup>th</sup> at the Jordan House. Our holiday party is at District 36 on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Thirty-one attendees have RSVP’d.
- Fontana memorial bench has been ordered and concrete pads are complete.
- No Open House at barn until February.
- Memorial brick order will be placed in January, per Lois.
- Brazeltons and Adamsons have volunteered to help with sidewalk snow removal this winter at museum.
- Christmas decorating will be on November 28<sup>th</sup> at the house and barn. Volunteers are needed.
- There will be a training session in January to help new board members become familiar to Ankeny history and house/barn museums. Each board member is asked to help with a tour during the year.
- Lois, Sandy and JoAnn will meet with the Ankeny Chamber of Commerce regarding a possible sesquicentennial event collaboration.

**Motion to adjourn by Terry Adamson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Karla Kasper. Motion passed. Next board meeting is Tuesday, January 24, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.**

**Minutes taken by Jeanne Uhl, in Secretary Rosemary Hutton Taylor’s absence**