

Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society

Minutes

7:00 pm, Thursday, March 7, 2019

Peninsula Township Hall

In Attendance: Dennis and Barb Hansen, Ellen Kerr, Jane Boursaw, Dave Merrell, Ann and Gerry Swaney, Dave and Donna Tuttle, Anne Griffiths, Connie Sargent, Katie Grier, Grace Rudd, Bill and JoAnn Cole, Judy Weaver, Laura Johnson

Program: “From a State Hospital Farm to a Public Garden – Past, Present and Future of the Botanic Garden at Historic Barns Park” presented by Karen Schmidt, Board Chair and Executive Director of the Botanic Gardens

Karen presented an impressive history of the farm as it was initially used to support the patients in the hospital; showing both the fields and buildings used. She then told the story of how, after remaining unused for a period of time, the farm lands and buildings were transformed into beautiful gardens. It is still being developed with help of many volunteers, both workers and financial supporters.

Business Meeting:

1. **January, 2019, minutes** approved
2. **Treasurer’s Report:** Checking Account: \$6,652.17; Savings Account: \$2059.89, Nothstine Tree Fund, \$5,520.62 and Juliann Meyer Fund, \$3000.
3. **Announcements and Correspondence**
 - a. Chris Rieser is recovering well from a health issue. We are grateful and wish for a speedy recovery
 - b. On a sad note, we have the loss of an original OMPHS member, Hedy Quick. She and her husband were from the beginning working on the Hessler Log Cabin. Hedy continued to support the OMPHS and participated in Log Cabin Day.
 - c. There are ongoing informal discussion of new displays for the log church
 - d. Received email supporting continuing with the annual Christmas Party
 - e. Winter Township Newsletter, which includes information on the OMPHS, has been sent to Township residents
 - f. Karen’s article in the Old Mission Living Magazine
 - g. Letter from Ginger Schultz that in August 2020, the Mission Point Light House will host the Michigan Lighthouse Festival. It will be the 150th anniversary of the MPL. Volunteers will be needed.
 - h. The Traverse Area Historical Society will hold a get-together at the Traverse City Speakeasy on Sunday, March 10. Theme is “Uncouth Characters of Traverse City”.

- i. Thank you: Lee and Donna Hornberger for cookies and Ellen Kerr for coffee, and Amy Lyman for organizing.

New Business:

Log Cabin Day, 2019, "Last Sunday in June" which this year is Sunday, June 30, 2019.

1. Planning meeting held Jan. 24; next meeting March 29 at Amy and Brad Lyman's home at 5:00 possibly followed by chili and cornbread. If attending, please let Amy know.
2. Karen has sent out invitations to crafters and demonstrators and has received confirmation from a number of people.
3. Ellen has received permission from the township to have the event pending insurance.
4. Judy Weaver will resume speaking with OM School regarding participation of students in possible related history projects
5. Anne showed a sample wooden ornament which could be made to designate the Hessler Log Cabin. She suggested selling these on Log Cabin Day with attachment in commemoration of Hedy and Wally Quick. Motion made and carried.

Committee Reports:

- a. Executive Board/Committee – Laura Johnson, will be meeting in future
- b. Archives and Newsletter – Ann Swaney
- c. Program Committee – Judy Weaver and Ann Swaney
 - i. April: JoAnne Cook, Grand Traverse Band member
 - ii. May: Ann Swaney and Laura Johnson, Old Mission Settler Jerome Pratt
 - iii. June: Pot Luck at the Dougherty House
- d. Website – Judy Weaver and Barb Berthelsen
- e. Dougherty House – Bill Cole: Weather has hampered work outside; however 4 screen doors are completed to be hung, May 18 is Spring Clean-up, June 15 is Dedication; and future docents are to contact Connie Sargent for further information about responsibilities
- f. Log Cabin
- g. Tree Committee - Jim Hall: trees to be planted in spring
- h. Lighthouse Anne Griffiths and Ellen Kerr: The Township board is planning to move gift shop and move a wall
- i. Log church – Anne Griffiths: need to form a formal committee to make definite plans and start work

Adjourned at 9:10 PM