

## OMPHS MINUTES MAY 2, 2024

We met at the library's Community Room. Twenty-eight members and guests were with us. OMPHS Member and Program Co-Chair Ann Swaney presented our program: "Michigan Granges: A Story of Agricultural Husbandry and Worthy Matrons."

The National Grange of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry was a fraternal rural family organization founded in 1867, with membership at local, state and national levels. Its goal was to promote the social and economic needs of farmers in the United States. It was once a secret organization but that is no longer true. The Old Mission Grange was #668, founded in 1886. The building remains on Swaney Road in the village of Old Mission. The Brinkman family built the building. The Grange Hall was upstairs. Downstairs was the Pearl Hill Grocery Store. Ann noted that in the 1950's popular teen dances were held in our local grange. Our grange also erected the obelisk monument to World War I soldiers near Mission Point Park. Ann showed pictures of that building and other nearby Grange Halls. Granges also spearheaded the founding of 4 H clubs nationwide. Ann also displayed various grange artifacts.

Our business meeting began at 6:50 p.m. with Co-President Julie Alexander presiding. The minutes were approved as distributed. Treasurer Dean Francis gave our financial position and presented a narrative for some of next year's proposed budget. As voted on last month, an honorarium of \$100 will be paid to each monthly speaker.

The mold remediation spraying has been done on the Hessler Log Cabin, but doing the same for the Replica Log Church will be an additional cost. Peninsula Township generally pays half of such expenses on the historic buildings they own and we help to maintain. Our portions usually come out of our Restricted Funds. Discussion ensued about general landscaping needs at the Replica Log Church.

Dean and Ann Swaney visited Big John's building where some OMPHS artifacts and records are stored. They recommend that better archival methods be used for some of these materials. Ann will apply for a grant to facilitate this. Therefore \$1500 appears in the budget for this. There is also an amount of \$500 in the budget for Public Relations and advertisements, especially for Jane Boursaw's Old Mission Gazette.

The History Room at the Peninsula Community Library has a need for a safe for a backup storage hard drive. After discussion, Judy Weaver moved, and Tim Carroll seconded a motion to allot \$500 for that. The motion passed.

Vice President David Taylor spoke about various audit formats for OMPHS, recommending an independent review.

Judy and Ken Weaver have heard from Dave Weaver (no relation), the leader of Boy Scout Troop 34. They request funds for tents. \$500 toward that will be presented at a June 18 Court of Honor, with Jim Hall doing the honors, as he has worked with these young men planting Memorial Trees here for many years.

Dougherty House clean-up day will be Saturday, May 18. They are looking for an employee for the coming summer so they can be open most days.

Also on May 18, the telescopic viewer presented to the Lighthouse Park by the Lighthouse Keepers Association, will be unveiled. Our attendance for that occasion is encouraged. Our contribution to signage for that is still under discussion with Brit Eaton.

Anita Klein displayed the “Champion” of the chestnut seedlings planted in March.

The Nominating Committee is working to fill spots up for election this year. Judy Weaver has agreed to continue as Secretary. Discussion took place about responsibilities of the Treasurer. In addition to accepting funds and paying bills, the Treasurer should also record deposits and disbursements, and manage regulatory reporting. We do not yet have a nominee.

Laura Johnson reported that she, with the help of Marty and Anita Klein, cleaned the Hessler Log Cabin on May 1 and that the viewing room is now open for the season. Thanks to all!

Fire Chief Gilstorf will bring a Fire Truck to the Log Cabin Day June 30. There will also be a display table about Veterans of the Civil War.

Barb Wunsch, Hospitality Chair, passed around sign-up sheets food and drink items to be brought to our June 2 Potluck and Annual Meeting. That will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in the village of Old Mission.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Weaver

Secretary