

Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society Minutes

Thursday September 5, 2019

Attendance: Karen and Chris Rieser, Ellen Kerr, John Scarbrough, Patti Rudolph, Anita Klein, Grace Rudd, Brent and Phyllis Cooley, Brian Brooks, Connie Sargent, Laura Johnson, Susan and Walt Feiger, Mary Morgan, Ann Swaney, Jane Boursaw, Penny and Bog Rosi, and Jim Brammer.

Thank you, Ellen Kerr for the wonderful ice cream sundaes. A pleasant social gathering was enjoyed by all prior to the meeting.

****Bold information is the discussion that occurred at the meeting.**

Call To Order: President John Scarbrough 7:23.

Old Business:

- 1. Minutes for June 2019 meeting were distributed, read and approved.**
- 2. Treasurers Report: Ellen Kerr – Ending Checking Balance \$4,636.22 , Savings Balance \$2,060.49, Fund Balances – Tree Fund \$3,731.08, Log Church - \$3,000, Log Cabin from the Township -\$1,664.44**
- 3. Communications-**
 - a. Mary Morgan – The Peninsula Community Library is now open to all. Come visit the Johnson-Carroll Homestead Room for in-house research of local history.**
 - b. Laura Johnson – Sunday September 15th at Cherry Basket Farm, 5530 West Bay Shore Road, the Omena Historical Society presents Ruby John-Fiddler, 4-6 p.m., free.**
 - c. Brian Brooks – Prospective new member- Boy Scout leader who is interested in working with the Tree Program. His troop is having a spaghetti dinner on Oct. 12th from 3-7 at the Congregational Church.**
- 4. Additions or changes – none.**

Old Mission Peninsula Historical Society

Committee Reports & Significant Dates

Thursday, September 5, 2019

Executive Board/Committee -- John Scarbrough

Board met July 9 and August 15. Responded with letters and in public comment to mid-July by-notice that new Parks Committee was considering hiring an “Historical Properties Manager”.

Discussed possible by-laws changes, new meeting place and time changes.

Set priorities for 2019—20:

- Increase membership. Elevate recognition of OMPHS in the Community.

Anita Klein – How are we going to increase membership?

- 1. Our flyer in a rack at the library.**
- 2. Contact Chamber of Commerce**
- 3. Make cards....discuss content – Judy Weaver and Ann Swaney**
- 4. Make a bookmark to be distributed – Judy Weaver and Ann Swaney**
- 5. It is legal to have members only meetings**
- 6. Include meeting information in church bulletins**
- 7. Re-do the OMPHS brochure.**
- 8. Be judges in a historical middle school event...contact Brandi Reynolds.-Karen and Chris**
- 9. Check out the college population**
- 10. Get long time OMP residents involved**
- 11. Advertise in the Old Mission Gazette - Ellen and Karen**

- Need someone to work the website with Barb Berthelsen
- Get a list of membership – Chris will develop a spreadsheet of members, Laura and Ellen

1. A membership list has been developed.

- Develop a working budget showing expenses and revenue. Include project needs from committees.
- Expend funds received from MPLHF on light house project.
- Clarify the roles and relationship between OMPHS and the new Parks Committee and the Township Board.
 - Create a written memo of understanding
 - Submit a yearly report of OMPHS activities to Supervisor and Clerk

President John Scarbrough – continues to appoint chairs and co-chairs of committees

Vice President Amy Lyman – requests chair’s email (alyman999@gmail.com) brief written committee reports one week prior to meetings to prepare “Pink Pages” for distribution.

Secretaries Chris and Karen Rieser – continuing to record and distribute minutes of Executive Board and General OMPHS meetings

Treasurer Ellen Kerr leads working group developing budget

Dougherty Mission House – Bill Cole

Joyous grand opening on June 15 with over 100 in attendance. To date almost 600 visitors. Contact Connie Sargent (269-760-3019) if you know anyone who’d like to be a docent. House is open 11am-5pm Th, Fr, Sat and 1pm to 5pm Sun.

Crew has cleared brush from trail (thanks to Tim Quinn and his grandchildren.) Natural gas is coming and propane tank has been removed in preparation.

Membership Committee – Anne Griffiths

At the request of the Executive Committee, Chris Rieser has been working on re-formatting and consolidating our membership records.

1. Membership list has been consolidated by Chris Rieser.

2. Ellen Kerr and Anne Griffiths will now manage the membership Committee.

Growing membership is a top priority for 2019—20.

Lighthouse ad hoc Committee – Chris Rieser and Laura Johnson

Investigating: relationship with new Parks Committee, historically appropriate shutters, Manager Ginger Schultz requests.

MPLHF dissolution expected to be complete by end October.

Log Church Committee- Amy Lyman (current Contact)

No summer meetings were held. Need to determine if Parks Committee wants our input and volunteer effort, and \$3,000 funds for the purpose of updating displays and lighting.

1. Discussed asking Township for funds to support Log Church effort.

Several of us attended worship service at Omena Presbyterian Church, toured cemetery, and museum. Ideas shared for future use.

Hessler Log Cabin Committee- Phyllis Cooley -Need co-chair

Archives and Newsletter Committee- Ann Swaney

Memorial Committee-Ellen Kerr

Replacing old brass memorial plaque on Johnson bench at Hessler Log Cabin with new black plaque with white letters (will wear longer) to include Walter and Carolyn Johnson Lewis. Request Dougherty crew assemble another bench for seating near Log Cabin and ordering plaque to honor Wally and Hedy Quick.

Sign ordered for Dougherty flower, herb and veg gardens to honor Nancy Warne active member of both OMPHS and Peter Dougherty Society.

Website Committee (+Facebook)- Barb Berthelson

Barb continues to update. Please send photos of committee activities. Investigating whether some articles published in old OMPHS Newsletters can be re-published on website.

Program Committee- Judy Weaver & Ann Swaney

Five programs are confirmed so far. Titles to be announced. October meeting for paid current members only at request of presenter. (no public announcement to be made)

- 1. October -Illini Resort -Bob and Penny Rosi-The meeting has been opened to the public.**
- 2. November -The Boursaws will be talking about the Peninsula Telephone Company**
- 3. December – Pot Luck -Judy Weaver has found some interest from the OMPS to sing.**
- 4. January – Chris Rockberg to discuss shipwrecks.**
- 5. February – The History of the Maritime Academy-Jerry O.**

Log Cabin Day Committee- Amy Lyman

No report

Hospitality Committee- (new Chair needed. Contact Ellen Kerr)

This is a fun, low stress job and a great way to meet fellow members and visitors. Keep the cookie calendar and call baker of the month to remind a week or 10 days prior to meetings. Brew and bring a carafe of coffee. If possible, keep paper goods at your home. Help organize and with other volunteers, conduct December Holiday party and June Pot-Luck.

Tree Planting Committee-Jim Hall and new co-chair Laura Johnson

Continuing to dedicate memorial trees. Seven new memorial trees requested since start of 2019 @ \$75 each.

- 1. Brian Brooks – Boy Scout leader and future member of the OMPHS is interested in working with this project.**

Significant Dates:

October 4 - Next meeting. Speaker requests only paid members. 6:30 Township Hall.

1. Members only request withdrawn.

October 19 Hessler Log Cabin Closing. Many hands make light work! 9am bring cleaning rags, brooms, rakes, gloves.

New Business – Goals for 2019-20

- 1. Keep a list of on-going projects.**
- 2. Anita Klein – Identify the subjects of two photo portraits that are part of the Dougherty House items. Jane Boursaw will investigate.**
- 3. Karen Rieser – Would like to advertise in the Old Mission Gazette to promote the OMPHS and the continued work Jane provides the OMPHS. This will need to be part of the budget.**
- 4. Contact Amy Lyman if you wish to be chair of the Log Church Project.**
- 5. We need a hospitality chair.**
- 6. Ellen Kerr- looking into OMPHS Board Liability insurance – we may be covered by our homeowners insurance.**
- 7. Penny Rosi – Put OMPHS information in the township newsletter. Thank you for alerting the Dougherty Society about the powder beetles in the carriage shed...the little buggers have been dealt with.**
- 8. John Scarbrough – Set specific goals for committees.**
- 9. Susan Feiger – Has over 300 Old Mission Post Cards.**
- 10. Connie Sargent – Would like to use the Tech Center in Traverse City as a resource.**
- 11. Mary Morgan – Put ideas on a spreadsheet.**
- 12. Ann Swaney – Send out program list to Tom Gordon at the History Department of NMC.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Respectfully submitted,

Karen and Chris Rieser Co-secretaries