

Gardner Historical Museum, Inc.
Listed in the State and National Register of Historic Places

General Meeting Minutes for Members and Board

March 6, 2008
204 W. Main Street, PO Box 442
Gardner, Kansas 66030

Welcome: President Shirley B-V. called the meeting to order at approximately 6:31 pm (immediately following the 2008 ANNUAL MEETING).

Minutes: The February 7, 2007 Minutes were approved as posted on the Web Site. Nancee R. moved to accept, Peggy C. seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Rob J. reported the bank balances of the Museum accounts. The Treasurer's Report will be filed with the minutes at the Museum.

Old Business: **Heritage Trust Grant:** Nancee R. reported that the final report had been completed. The required payment was made to reimburse the trust for the overpayment made earlier and the agreed amount to pay to Jamie L. for the brass plates for the mural. Some of the archival supplies ordered have been received and more is still to come. Karen A. reported that John C is to take new photos of the mural for a glossy-type book with pictures of the mural and tiles, to be sold with the profits benefiting the Museum, as she and Jamie felt the planned brochure would be good for promotion, but not enough to fully explain the project. John is to charge \$125/hour, which is half of his normal rate and expects the photo shoot to take no more than one hour. Shirley B-V explained where the money to fund the Heritage Trust Grant comes from-a percentage of property taxes. We will be talking about what kind of new projects we might be able to apply for. Karen also suggested that the first exhibition of the mural be at the Johnson County offices, with a presentation from the Museum and Jamie to the County.

Bookcase for Obituaries: Shirley B-V. pointed out the new bookcases that she purchased for the Museum and thanked Claude S. for his labor to assemble them.

Commemorative Book: Tressa S. reported that she is up to 180 pages. She is continuing to format pages. Shirley commented on why the book was being put together and commended Tressa on all the hard work. Mayrene N. also commented that she has been one of Tressa's proofreaders and thinks it is fantastic. Bettie T. suggested a signing party to introduce the book when it is ready, with press coverage from Mark T.

Restructuring Board(s): Discussion tabled.

Artifact Acquisition Resolution/Form: Nancee had copies of the revised acquisition form. She commented that it is user friendly, was drawn up using suggestions from her committee members, one page & one form for three types of donations/loans, the resolution is printed right on the form with detailed instructions. The resolution is also included in the adopted policies and procedures that the committee will be using. Nancee also explained about a “transfer” form and what qualifies for transfer-when a donation may not be pertinent to our area, county, or focus. Only Nancee will complete transfer forms. Docents will only be using the new acquisition forms. Nancee asked for Board approval of the resolution as presented and Shirley reminded the Board that it had already been approved at a previous meeting, the Board just needed to approve the revised form and vote. Claude made the motion to approve the revised form, Karen seconded, motion passed. Shirley also said she would pass the form to JCCC for their information.

Yard Sign: Melissa M. from the City of Gardner visited our meeting and indicated she had researched the current commercial sign ordinances. The parameters given were low to the ground for a monument-type, set back 10 feet from the property line, 5 X 5 feet/25 square feet, material is optional, and lighting is restrictive. She suggested we be careful who we hire to be sure the contractor is reputable and aware of the ordinances. Melissa said she had a recommendation for an architect (Vern P’s son, Doug). She also commented that it would be even better if the contractor had an interest in Gardner and/or an historical connection. Karen indicated that the City had committed funds for a permanent sign from the beginning of the Museum’s existence. Shirley and Nancee confirmed this statement. Melissa is to research this and she volunteered to be a member of the committee.

Gardner Junction Park: Melissa addressed the problem with the Junction Park committee decisions regarding the lawn at the park. A former K-Dot engineer has given her some information. Apparently, there is no money now for the grass that was to be sown. Karen confirmed that it was supposed to be tall and short prairie grass seed. Karen and Shirley are to get information on possible lawn companies that might donate the seed and labor. Also, the interpretive panels have not been ordered as originally scheduled. Melissa reiterated that these problems were not due to any negligence from the City of Gardner. In conjunction with the park, Peggy C. asked if the old Overland Trails sign at our back ramp was ours to keep. Shirley confirmed that it was ours and expressed her thanks to the City employee (Mike G) for getting it to us. Karen indicated there was a mistake made on this revised sign. It was discussed where to locate the sign permanently. No decision was made.

150 Souvenir Inventory: Melissa suggested completing an inventory of what is at the Museum and present it to the City for possible donation to the Museum so they could close the books on the 150th Committee.

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City Budget: Melissa instructed us to prepare the letter in the same basic way as last year to present to the budget committee. The deadline is May 1st.

Chamber After Hours: Casey O-S. reminded the Board that the event is Thursday, March 13th, 5-7pm. She passed a sign-up sheet for cleaning, tours, serving. The proof of the invitations prepared by Dawn at The UPS Store was passed.

2008 Dues/Membership: Laura M. reminded those present to be sure their dues have been paid and that there were extra mailing packets, if they were needed.

New Business: **New Donations: Archives:** Nancee R. had nothing to report.

New Donations: Monetary: Laura M.'s report on the auto payments and deposits was passed and will be filed with the minutes of the meeting.

New Board Members: Shirley introduced our recently elected new board members and they gave some background information about themselves.

Cemetery Walk: Nancee needs people who are interested in planning, participating and setting up for the second annual Cemetery Walk. The Walk will only be held on one day/evening. The committee will be meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 4:00pm.

Storage Unit: Laura reported that the banks contacted so far have not agreed to cover any costs for our storage unit and asked for other suggestions. Peggy C. paid for the month of March.

Cemetery Project: Shirley explained the Museum's role in the project and asked for help to carry on the data entry work for the Cemetery Board.

Discussion Items: **Stake Your Claim:** Shirley talked about the most recent contributions to this campaign. Claude is to research and advise on the best way to apply the funds to the principal and/or interest. This subject will be discussed more at a later meeting.

Heritage Trust Application for 2008: Shirley indicated that the deadline for application for 2008 is approaching, so we need to be thinking about possible needs that we might be able to apply for. She also asked if the Board knew of anyone who would be interested in helping us with grant writing. Nancee knows of someone at Sunflower Elementary who might be interested. She is to check and report back.

Partnership Historic Sites: Laura presented information about a program that might work for us for the future. Unfortunately, the deadline is so close, we will not be able to make application at this time.

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Building & Groundskeeping: Shirley asked for suggestions to think about someone who would provide this service on a regular basis. Peggy commented that a platform was needed at the recycling bin because of the difficulty getting to the bin after it has rained and is muddy. Rob volunteered to work on a plan for a pad.

Trade Souvenirs With Kathy: Kathy Q. had requested that she be allowed to bring back the Parry notecards that she has in stock at Price Chopper and trade them for the pioneer souvenirs we have in stock. The Board agreed to the trade.

For Your Information: For the month of March, we are featuring a Rebekah's exhibit.

The new wagon wheel light fixture has been installed in the Trails Room, courtesy of Rob J. Be sure to take a look, as it makes the room much brighter.

During the month of February we received individual dues & donations and corporate dues & donations. New member cards will be going out ASAP. We have 7 Member Sponsors offering discounts to members. A list of participants will be included in the mailing. If your business or someone you know would like to participate, please pass information to Laura.

Announcements: *Next General Meeting is April 3, 2008 6:00 pm, at the Museum*

Motion to Adjourn: Claude made a motion to adjourn and Karen seconded the motion. Adjourned at 7:15 pm.