

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

**General Meeting Minutes for Members and Board**

April 3, 2008  
204 W. Main Street, PO Box 442  
Gardner, Kansas 66030

**Welcome:** President Shirley B-V. called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

**Minutes:** The March 6, 2008 Minutes were approved as posted on the Web Site. Nancee R. moved to accept, Karen A. 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:**      **Mural/Book Update:** Karen A. reported that the mural is completely done. She pointed out that there was an estimated 600-man hours put into the project. Nancee has been in contact with the Heritage Trust Fund administrator to answer a question regarding an error in calculation and providing copies of invoices that they need. They are holding the refund check we sent earlier until the grant report has been finalized. Karen also indicated that the text for the book to detail the mural and the tiles attached is almost done. She still needs more info about the Gardner Cemetery, St. Columba Cemetery and Frank Moore. There are a few dates to be changed on the plaques, which Karen volunteered to bear the cost of. The photographer is ready to do the final photo shoot & Jamie L. is to take them to him personally. He will be shooting all three panels as a group, individually & the tiles in small groups. It should take 2-3 hours at the reduced rate of \$125/hour. It is anticipated that the book will be put together by Shawnee Copy Center, with the photos & text e-mailed or transferred to disc. Hopefully the production costs will be donated. Rob J. made a motion to use the amount that will be left over in the grant account (\$400±) after all bills have been paid to off-set the production costs for the book. Marcia G. seconded the motion and the motion carried. Karen is to get in touch with the Heritage Trust Fund of Johnson County office to determine when they would like to have the mural on display. She will also contact the City of Gardner to schedule a display there.

**Commemorative Book:** Tressa S. reported that the book is now about 140 pages. She met with the printer on Monday to get production estimates as follows: All books will be spiral bound with a clear front cover and black plastic back. Any number of books can be ordered at the rates below.

- a. \$9.48/book with all black & white pictures
- b. \$25.14/book with 60 color pictures, balance b/w
- c. \$17.12/book with 30 color pictures, balance b/w

It was discussed that we would need about 500 copies and confirmed that we do not have to order or purchase all 500 copies at once. They can be printed as needed. Nancee is working on including the book in a 2008 grant application for the Heritage

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Trust Fund (along with upgraded security). She explained the reasoning for estimating 500 books to include in the grant application. The grant could be written with more than one option for them to choose from. Claude S. expressed concern about putting off the printing until we know if we get the funding. Shirley B-V. suggested printing the black & white version only first and submit the grant application for the color versions. Karen A. suggested applying also to the State Tourism board for funding of 40% of the production costs. Mayrene N. agreed we should sell both black & white and color versions. Claude moved to order 50 black & white copies and apply for an appropriate number of color copies in the grant. Rob J. seconded the motion and it was approved. Karen also reminded Nancee that Johnson County grants now need to be submitted separately; therefore the application for the upgraded security would be a separate grant. Karen moved that we submit a second grant application for the security system upgrade. Laura M. seconded and the motion carried.

**Yard Sign:** Laura M. did not have anything to report at this time. Karen said Jamie L. is working on a design that is smaller than submitted earlier. Laura and Karen will continue to work on this project.

**Gardner Junction Park:** Karen A. is to get back with EPIC at the end of the month regarding the grass seed needed. A copy of a suggested display sign received via e-mail from Melissa at the City was passed. The main thing suggested to be revised was that the Museum should receive credit somewhere.

**2008 Dues/Membership:** Laura M. again reminded those present to be sure their dues have been paid and that there were extra mailing packets, if they were needed. It was also mentioned that there are some of the mailers prepared for Chamber members that need to be hand-carried and that we could use volunteers to help. Laura reported on the amount of dues collected, as well as receipt of a Stake Your Claim donation. The donor is asking for the ownership of the colored glass window in the stairway. This then brought up a discussion of the Stake Your Claim policies on whether it was appropriate to re-sell items. Shirley and Claude confirmed that when the original schedule of rates for various items was revised lower, that it was also adopted as policy to re-sell items, if that is what the donor desires.

**Cemetery Walk, 2008:** Nancee R. reported that her committee had met and will be meeting again in June. She was questioned about the possibility of compiling the histories presented last year for publication. Apparently, the committee has an idea for selling/distributing those histories that they will be presenting at a later date.

**Storage Unit Sponsor:** Laura M. reminded the board that we still need a sponsor to cover the cost of several months of storage as Solutions Bank does not appear to be interested in helping after all. Shirley agreed that Bruce Funeral Home will pay for April and May.

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**New Business:**      **New Donations: Archives:** Nancee R. reported several misc. donations, including additional Rebekah items from Mary Ann W. and soft cover copies of *Kansas Saplings* from the Messer family that we can sell.

**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 Goals:** Shirley asked each board member to bring a list of short-term and long-term goals for the Museum to the next meeting.

**Genealogy Talks/Mother's Tea:** Laura reported for Casey O-S. that the genealogy talks are still scheduled, with the first one for Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am, and encouraged all to attend. The next talk is Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The Mother's Tea is also scheduled for the Saturday after Mother's Day, May 17<sup>th</sup>. She asked for any who would like to volunteer to assist serving. Terrace Catering has volunteered to furnish the food and drink for the tea. Casey is to schedule a Tea meeting as well as a committee meeting later in the month, after she returns from vacation.

**Discussion Items:**      **Stake Your Claim:** Claude reported that paying the interest only on the mortgage loan would still be a fairly substantial amount (\$4,000±) to the end of 2008. He confirmed that the note is due in August and could be renegotiated at that time. The current interest rate is 6%, but there is no guarantee what it will be in August. He suggested that the Museum needs to budget at least the amount needed to August before applying all of the Stake Your Claim funds currently in the checking account (\$9,000) to the principal only. He recommended rewriting the loan to be interest only, with a specified annual amount to be applied to the principal. Shirley is to look at the Museum budget, review donations and will make a decision on how to distribute the Stake Your Claim funds at a later date.

**Heritage Trust Application for 2008:** Covered above.

**Recycling Platform:** Gravel, cement blocks and poured concrete pad were suggestions for improving the area at the recycling bin. No decision was made. Everyone was charged with researching possible resources/donations of time & materials.

**City Bed & Tax Budget Letter:** The letter proposed by Laura & Shirley was passed and discussed. The amount to request was also discussed. An amount slightly less than last year (\$15,000) was agreed upon.

**Parks & Rec/Earth Day:** A flyer was received requesting volunteers for an Earth Day event scheduled for Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The consensus was not to send a contingent representing the Museum, but individuals were encouraged to participate.

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**Committee Reports:** Each Committee Chairperson reported briefly, plus:

**Press/P.R.:** Shirley & Mark T. are working on a Stake Your Claim article.

**Volunteers:** Nancee R. reported she had added 4 volunteers to the list of docents. More volunteers are still needed, however. She suggested we need to work together to prepare a list of things to do for the docents to refer to. It was agreed that we would host a party for the docent volunteers, as well as the Festival volunteers, again late in the year or early next year.

**School District Liaison:** Claude S. reported that he had spoken with Tim Y., from the school district and that he was to check school by school throughout the district on how the Museum might be able to partner with/assist them. He was also going to talk to the history department at the high school to see if they could assist us with future events. Nancee asked if he had learned anything regarding the copyright concerns about the copying of the A.S. Reece video. Per Marilyn R-W., the terms of the video donation required that any copies sold were to be used for school district scholarships. Marilyn is also to do more follow up and will keep us posted.

### For Your Information:

For the month of April, we will continue with the Rebekah's exhibit. Also, on Saturday, April 12, 10 am, is the first in the Genealogy Series. Be sure to sign up & bring guests.

New member cards & Member Sponsor details have been distributed. If your business or someone you know would like to be a Member Sponsor, please pass the information to Laura.

Does anyone know where the 'Museum Copy' of the book *Sampling Kansas* is located? Let Laura know. Thanks.

Chamber After Hours – Thursday, April 10, 5-7pm at Central National Bank at 205 N. Moonlight. Please plan to attend to represent the Museum.

Needed: Member Representative to review material, attend workshops, meetings, etc. of Kansas Museums Association, of which we are a member. See Laura for more info.

Gardner Junction Park – Karen A. indicated that she had been in contact with Mary from the Santa Fe Trail Assn. regarding the dedication, which is planned for the first two weeks of July. Karen is to be the keynote speaker.

Karen also announced that she and Lindsey will be moving to Northern California in late July or August.

It was reported that Martha K. had found a recipient for her pioneer laundry equipment that she cannot take to Colorado when they move. Our board member, Kathy Q. is that recipient and she has indicated that we may call on her to do presentations at the Museum after she has been trained.

**Announcements:** *Next General Meeting is May 1, 2008 6:00 pm, at the Museum*

**Motion to Adjourn:** Claude made a motion to adjourn and Karen seconded the motion. Adjourned at 7:25 pm.