

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

General Meeting Minutes for Members and Board

June 5, 2008
204 W. Main Street, PO Box 442
Gardner, Kansas 66030

Welcome: President Shirley B-V. called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. 15 in attendance.

Minutes: The May 1, 2008 Minutes were approved as posted on the Web Site. Karen A. moved to accept, Mayrene N. 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 text is completed, after being edited down to 55 pages. The photos of the tiles are not ready, however. The preferred photographer has taken another job and is not readily available for the photo shoot. She and Jamie L are trying to find another suitable photographer. One photographer contacted from K.C. will not donate any time and will not do the shoot for an amount anywhere close to what John C was going to charge. Mark T. is to do research some other possible photographers. Karen has an anonymous vendor who is donating the publishing of the book.

Commemorative Book: Tressa S. announced that the completed books are here. Shirley presented a free copy to Tressa as a small token of the Museum's appreciation for all of her hard work to accomplish this project. Everyone present offered a big THANK YOU. It was then discussed what the selling price should be. Marcia G. moved to charge \$25, Karen seconded. Motion passed. The only discount approved was for Tressa to purchase up to 25 copies at cost. Tressa will be signing books on Saturday, June 14th, from about 11:00-12:00. The invoice was approved for payment.

Yard Sign: Laura M. indicated that Melissa M had said to bring a plan and/or drawing of the sign we want to the City to make application. They will then come here to review the site and proceed from there. Shirley commented on how good the stone sign at Spring Hill looked. She charged those present to bring design ideas to the July meeting. Scott B. would be able to help with the final design.

Cemetery Walk, 2008: Nancee R. met with the committee last Tuesday and confirmed that the walk will again be held the weekend after the Festival on the Trails, Thursday, September 18th and Saturday, September 20th, with tours starting at 6:30, 6:45 and 7:00pm. There will be double tours at 6:30 & 6:45, commencing on opposite sides of the Cemetery and crisscrossing in the middle. There will only be one tour at 7:00. The committee estimated being able to accommodate as many as 200 people.

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Storage Unit: Laura reported that the vandals who broke in recently had been apprehended. She gave the details supplied by the detective of the vandals' slick operation. Unfortunately, our equipment was not recovered. Per the insurance provider, we have to replace the equipment and then provide receipts with a claim to get reimbursed for our loss. Laura suggested the possibility of purchasing a simpler, more compact system instead of components. After discussion, it was decided that Laura will follow up with Sue D at Embarq for a possible donation, as Embarq was the original donor. Karen is also to get prices on replacing the component equipment and will report back to Shirley by the end of next week. As a side note, Laura also indicated that between 2 donations & a small portion from the Museum, the storage unit rent has been paid through the end of 2008.

Heritage Trust Fund, 2008 Update: Nancee has not heard from the County at this time. She expects to know more by mid-June.

Grant Writer Update: There has been no response from Becky D regarding writing more grants for us.

Building/Groundskeeping/Recycle Platform Update: Rob reported that he had raised the pump. He thanked the group who worked on the 1st. He did not have anything to report regarding a recycle platform. Karen indicated she had enough paving stones that she would be willing to donate for the platform. She is to get with Rob to see if they would be appropriate. Rob is also to check with Bill G about the project.

Gardner Junction Park: Laura and Nancee reported that the grass was not sown as planned because it was too wet. Karen indicated that she had been contacted by the Santa Fe Trails Assoc. informing her that the dedication has been re-scheduled to August 21st, with the ceremony at City Council Chambers at 6:00 pm, followed by a trip to the park itself. Karen is still planning to be the keynote speaker, if she is still in residence here.

Bylaws Updates: Karen is to get revisions to Laura or Shirley as soon as possible for review to be sure all changes have been inserted.

New Goals: Shirley reiterated her assignment to the Board to compile lists of short-term and long-term goals for the Museum, with more discussion later. She read a few of the new goals that have been submitted and how to accomplish them. Karen has information on how to pay for a salaried Administrator that she is to pass to the board.

Genealogy Talks/Mothers' Tea: Casey O-S. reported that the attendance at the second Genealogy Talk was also good and reminded members of the third and final talk scheduled for June 14. She was pleased with the Mothers' Tea and plans to

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include it as an annual event, before Mother's Day, possibly in April, 2009. (Based on suggestions from Connie Wright and Martha Hodges), It was also discussed how the format might be changed to a more formal affair and/or to be an etiquette learning experience.

New Business: **New Donations: Archives:** Nancee R. reported that we have several new items for the committee to review and will announce a meeting date later. Karen also has some rustic outside items she would like to donate, if the committee is interested in them.

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

Genealogy Talk, June 14: Casey announced that the speaker for this segment will be from the Johnson County Library. About 12 people have signed up. She also noted that there is a new building about to open in Independence, the Genealogy Institute.

Chicken House Painting, June: Rob had an initial work day to scrape paint on the chicken house on June 1st, with 4 people helping. He has planned to work on two more Sundays in June, the 8th & 22nd. Rob is planning to replace the east door because it is too short. Karen has access to barn wood, if needed, (from Gary Miller). Morris (Eastland) was to replace the window, so Rob is to keep trying to reach him. Shirley is going to check on getting the paint donated. It was recommended to Rob that the seams be caulked from the inside prior to painting and that a clear coat wood protector be sprayed inside. The goal is to have it completed (or nearly completed) by the first of July.

Ice Cream Social, July 5: Rob verified that he had confirmation from the K.C. Horseless Carriage Club to bring their antique cars for display on that day, 10-4. Laura reported that Price Chopper will provide ice cream novelties, ice, ice cream makings & portable freezer for the event. Shirley suggested that Rob may need a committee to help him. Mayrene N. & Shirley suggested members be called upon for cookies, brownies, etc. to go with the ice cream. Nancee is to send an e-mail to the members. Claude & Laura indicated they have ice cream freezers, including at least one crank-type.

New Grant: Shirley indicated that she had been given an application for a special grant from Reece & Nichols Real Estate that Joyce O wanted to complete and submit on our behalf. It is due June 30th. It is for an amount of \$10,000 for a non-profit project. Karen motioned that we review the application and apply, if it seems that the Museum would qualify. Claude seconded and the motion carried.

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Discussion Items: **Next Meeting, July 3rd:** It was agreed that meeting just prior to the holiday was not a problem.

Johnson County Parade: Laura has received the entry form for the parade. We also discussed the possibility of staffing a booth in the Grange Hall. The Fair Board is trying to get more interest in the Open Class buildings and think the Museum may be able to help get more people in the door. Karen volunteered to be Chairperson for the float; Laura for the booth.

Mountain-Plains Museums Assoc.: Laura received information from the organization that is a COOP with other museums for discount purchases. There is a \$50 membership fee. It is similar to KMA. Nancee volunteered to review the information and determine whether it is worth joining.

Reece Video: It was brought to the attention of the Board that the video is not in the video storage drawer. It was discussed when it was last used and who might have borrowed it. All are to pursue retrieving it ASAP.

Committee Reports: Each Committee Chairperson reported briefly, plus:

Press/P.R.: Mark T. is planning a story about the Timeline book & Tressa's book signing event. He also is trying to incorporate more Museum events in the Things to Do section of the Gardner News. We are to keep him posted on times. Shirley also stressed the importance of being in other publications, as well.

Archives: Nancee will send an e-mail notice of the meeting date & time.

Fund Raising: Shirley indicated that she is to meet with Mary C for lunch and a visit to the Museum to discuss possible funds for the Museum. She charged all present to continue to promote the Stake Your Claim campaign.

Volunteers: Nancee listed the names of several new volunteers/docents (Donna P, Eileen H, Karen S, Mary P). She still has a problem recruiting volunteers for the weekends. We thought Mark might be able to add a line to his next article.

Events: Casey is to get with Mark with information about the tea & genealogy seminar.

Extras:

Web Site: Our current hosting fee is paid by Brad & Nancee R. Shirley talked about the option of adding the Museum to the funeral home hosting, which might be better. They are to discuss further.

Grange: Linda R. announced that the Gardner Grange is 135 years old in 2008. They have 35-40 members at this time. She solicited for new members. Yearly dues are \$25. She also told of up-coming Grange events.

O'Connor Reunion: Casey indicated that the special tours for their reunion were very well received.

KMA: Laura reported she has nomination forms for "Excellence" and "Distinguished Service" awards. These will be passed to Ruth H and Minnie A who have volunteered to help with this project.

Greater KC Community Foundation: We have been approached to

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complete a survey. It was agreed that we would not participate.

Edgerton Frontier Days: Laura reminded everyone that the Museum would be represented on Friday & Saturday, June 20 & 21. She would appreciate help manning the booth.

Copier/Printer: Unfortunately, the copier is broken & cannot be repaired inexpensively. The printer has also worn out completely. It was approved to replace the printer & discard the copier.

For Your Information:

For the month of June, we will continue featuring genealogy research, in conjunction with our Genealogy Series, adding the beautifully done O'Connor family tree & some family pictures. The next presentation is Saturday, June 14th at 10am. Be sure to sign up & bring guests. The second in the series was every bit as good as the first.

The new flag has been raised. Thank you, Shirley.

A booth at Edgerton's Frontier Days (June 19, 20, 21) has been paid for. The Museum will be the main vendor, sharing with the Docey Dandies Square Dance Club (splitting the \$25 cost of the booth). The Ladies of the Assumption Catholic Church will provide the tent & tables in exchange for holding a bake sale on Saturday morning. If you would like to volunteer to help sell souvenirs & give out information, please contact Laura at 913-882-9750.

We have received confirmation that the City has given us permission to keep the proceeds from sales of the 150-souvenirs we have on hand. Thank you, City of Gardner, 150-Committee.

We had a booth at the All-School Reunion in May and gave out lots of information and sold \$177.50 in souvenirs. The Mothers' Tea earned us \$80.

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

Motion to Adjourn: Mark T. made a motion to adjourn and Karen seconded the motion. Adjourned at 7:32 pm.