

Manfred History and Preservation, Inc.

Minutes of the October 1, 2017 Meeting

Attending meeting:

Pam Norstedt	Verna Bowers
Judy Weigelt	Audrey Solheim
Lewis Weigelt	Rose Anderson
Richard Melchert	Wesley Gross
Wanda Melchert	Jamie Schindler

Call to Order:

Audrey Solheim called the meeting to order with roll call being taken. Ten board members and additional members were in attendance. A copy of the following reports was given to each attendee: Minutes of July 16, 2017, fiscal 3rd Quarter 2017 Report, Fiscal Committee Report, Director's Report, 2017 Participation Report, Newsletter and Contribution Report, Historian's Report, and Master Plan Considerations.

Secretary's Report:

The printed copy of the July 16, 2017 minutes was read. Motion to accept the minutes were made by Pam Norstedt and seconded by Wesley Gross. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Richard Melchert reported on the 2017 3rd quarter which had a beginning balance of \$2,537.40, income of \$1,978.00 plus Assessment Grant disbursement of \$5,000.00 for a total of \$9,515.40. Expenses for the 3rd quarter were \$1,696.08 resulting in a 3rd quarter ending balance as of 09/23/17 of \$7,819.32. The MHP, Inc. savings account as of 06/30/17 is \$8,895.16. The combined checking and savings balance is \$16,714.48. Pam Norstedt made the motion and Verna Bowers seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Newsletter and Contribution Report:

Renewal or new subscriptions to date in 2017 is 125. The MHP, Inc. General Fund donations to date in 2017 is \$7,193.00. The MHP, Inc. Edward Jones Everlasting Fund to date in 2017 is \$1,157.27.

Director's Report:

Wanda Melchert presented a Recognition of Participation list of those who helped in some way with Manfred during 2017. 3rd Quarter restoration/improvement projects included finishing with repainting of Hotel Johnson, took down small building in the Solheim House yard, north side of Cash Store restored by Greg Seidel who also secured the tin panels for the entire building, painted two Manfred School classrooms and started on wood refinishing, and Vang Church had some painting improvements. For the merger, one more deed is to be finished before taking all documents to the court house. The committee bank accounts have all been placed under the ownership of MHP, Inc. Events during the 3rd quarter were the August 5, 2017 dedication of the Outdoor Interpretive Panels with 46 in attendance and the nomination of the Historic District of Manfred by the North Dakota State Review Board on August 25, 2017. Artifacts were newly found at the Solheim Station and the Solheim House back yard.

Bank Signers:

Wanda Melchert made a motion to have the signers for the Dakota Heritage Bank savings and checking accounts to be Richard Melchert, Wanda Melchert, Pam Norstedt, and Audrey Solheim. Pam Norstedt seconded. Motion carried.

Master Plan Considerations:

Museum positions include: Museum Director-Wanda Melchert, Historian-Audrey Solheim, the MHP, Inc. Executive Board, and MHP, Inc. members participating in areas of interest. The desire is to establish an Advisory Board and to contract the positions of "Museum Collections" and "Outreach Assistant" for the 2018 season. Pam Norstedt made a motion to contract a student for Museum Collections for 10 weeks in 2018 at 40 hours each week, \$15.00 hour for a total of \$6,000.00 and a student for Outreach Assistant for 10 weeks in 2018 at 32 hours each week, \$15.00 per hour which totals \$4,800.00. Payment is to be taken from the MHP, Inc. checking account every two weeks. Rose Anderson seconded the motion. Motion carried. The plan is to apply for matching funds through the Commerce Department of North Dakota which would help with the cost.

Public Comfort Station and Campsite:

In preparation for installing a Comfort Station and Campsite in Manfred, the goals include: 2018 planning, 2019 implementation, 2020 promotion and be ready to use.

Fessenden Celebration in June 2018:

We will contact the Fessenden 125th Anniversary and All-School Reunion Committee to let them know that dry camping at Manfred has been approved for their festivities in 2018. Also, we will seek to have Manfred listed in the Fessenden Celebration Schedule for an open house.

2018 Activities proposed for Manfred:

Open House during the Wells County Fair/Fessenden 125th Anniversary and All-School Reunion on June 21-24; and Cemetery Marker Preservation Workshop later in the summer. Other possible activities in 2018: Celebration of the National Register; history presentations to the public with artifacts; Museum Crawl/Open House with Wells County and Bowdon Museums; start a museum column in local newspapers in 2018; continue with "Manfred News" column, Manfred School Opening whenever school building and exhibits are ready-later in 2018 or in 2019.

Historian's Report: Manfred Township Cemetery

Audrey Solheim reported on the Manfred Township Cemetery and those who are buried there. Nels Nertrout had told Adolph Shirley that his Uncle Peter Shirley is buried in the last grave toward the SW corner of this cemetery. It is believed that August and Fredericka Schmitcke, who immigrated in about 1894, are buried there. Miles Johnson, older brother of Leslie Johnson who died before Leslie was born, is also buried in this cemetery. Many graves in this cemetery are unmarked. Cement blocks that Perry Anderson brought from Devils Lake were placed where indentions in the ground indicated what was believed to be the location of burials.

Other business:

In preparation for the Nomination Report for the spring 2018 meeting, Wanda Melchert asked each candidate if they would be willing to serve in their respective positions. Everyone consented to do so. An Audit of the financial records will be conducted by Lewis and Judy Weigelt before the spring 2018 meeting.

Audrey Solheim adjourned the meeting after which lunch was served.

Judy Weigelt, Secretary