

**SWISS (VOLHYNIAN) MENNONITE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
MINUTES**

Thursday, July 10, 2003, 6:30 AM
Marlene and Maynard Krehbiel's Home

Present: Arnold Wedel, Roger Juhnke, Ozzie Goering, Ben Stucky, Maynard Krehbiel, Jay Goering, Wayne Stucky, Gary Stucky, LaVera Schrag, Waneta Goering
Also Present: Vaughn Juhnke
Call to Order: Arnold Wedel, Chair, called the meeting to order and thanked Marlene and Maynard for hosting the meeting and providing a wonderful breakfast.

MINUTES OF APRIL 29, 2003 MEETING

The minutes of the April 29, 2003 meeting were reviewed. The following correction was made: the webmaster is "Dennis" Quiring, not "Donald" Quiring. The minutes were approved as corrected.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jay Goering

Jay distributed the treasurer's report. He reported the electric bill is now being received directly from the utility company and two or three lifetime memberships have been received. Investment income was received on the following accounts: Swiss Cemetery Building Fund - \$3.06, Balance - \$87.74; Swiss Money Market Account - \$33.17, Balance - \$5,034.90; Cemetery Endowment Fund - \$79.75, Balance \$14,967.16. SMCHA Checking – Income - \$3,732.59; Expenses - \$3,618.41; Balance in Checking - \$2,572.25.

MOTION: It was moved by Ben Stucky and seconded by LaVera Schrag to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

COMMENTS ON SPRING BANQUET, DEDICATION OF MARKER AND "ONLY SCHWEITZER SPOKEN HERE"

It was reported that those in attendance at the Spring Banquet and dedication service were very pleased with the meal, the program, attendance at both the banquet and the dedication of the Hopefield cemetery directory. Good comments on first "Only Schweitzer Spoken Here" program—80 in attendance.

FUTURE OF SMCHA DISCUSSION

Arnold Wedel, Chair, reported that T. James Goering has asked for a meeting to discuss the future of SMCHA. This discussion will be held on Saturday, August 16, 7:30 am. The chair asked for board members to attend if possible, and to let him know by e-mail or phone if they cannot attend. Dale E. Schrag will be at this meeting. This is an open meeting.

TRUSTEE REPORT – Maynard Krehbiel

Marker Repair. Maynard Krehbiel reported Vaughn Juhnke patched the holes in the marker and asked him to report on other repairs needing to be done. Vaughn reported that part of the limestone is showing cracks and falling out. Minor tuckpointing and waterproofing needs to be done now but could get costly if it isn't repaired soon. The total cost to fix it would be \$2,000-\$3,000. He stated the most critical repair right now is to the top of the marker and suggested

that he could do the top part for \$650. The committee requested him to do the top part of the marker now and asked for two separate bids on both repair jobs to the marker and to communicate with Maynard on the cost estimate on both.

New Directory Problems. Maynard also reported the limestone is flaking off on the new directory building.

Repairs to Lighting. Maynard reported the lights have been fixed at the marker.

FALL FESTIVAL PROGRAM – Wayne Stucky

Wayne reported that Neva Kaufman would help on the committee. The First Mennonite Church at Pretty Prairie is responsible for the program. LaVera Schrag, Florene Krehbiel, Leann and Wayne will set up a meeting time to plan.

“ONLY SCHWEITZER SPOKEN HERE”

Publicity for the August program will be placed in the Swiss church bulletins, *The Newton-Kansan* and *The Hutchinson News*.

WEBSITE

The chair stated that Dennis Quiring is reporting a disappointing number of “hits” to the SMCHA website.

SPRING BANQUET 2004

There was discussion about securing a speaker for the banquet in 2004. The chair suggested asking John Ruth to speak. To help defray some of the cost, Marion Bontrager suggested that the colleges or churches be contacted about having him speak. His fee is \$100/day, plus transportation and lodging. Roger Juhnke stated the Western District Historical Committee discussed having him talk about the differences between the Swiss Mennonites in Kansas and the Swiss Mennonites in Pennsylvania. The chair suggested that the meeting in August could also be used to discuss securing a banquet speaker.

SMCHA MEMBERSHIP

The chair suggested sending letters to all members of Swiss Mennonite churches, current members, families who have members buried at Hopefield Cemetery, and past members who do not attend any of the Swiss Mennonite churches. It was suggested that the cost of restoring graves be shared in this letter. It was also suggested it have a two-fold purpose—membership drive and fundraising for restoration of graves in the Hopefield Cemetery. Roger Juhnke will work with Waneta Goering to secure the lists of former members, compose the letter and get the letter to the churches, etc.

NEW BUSINESS – There was none.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be Thursday, September 11, 2003, 4:00 - 5:30 pm. at the Memorial Home Activity/Wellness Center, North Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Waneta Goering, Recorder

