

Swiss (Volhynian) Mennonite Cultural and Historical Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday November 16, 2006 4:15 p.m.
The Citizens State Bank Room

Call to Order: Chair Arnold Wedel called the meeting to order.

Present: Wayne Stucky, Roger Juhnke, H. Keith Goering, T. James Goering, Arnold Wedel, Melvin Graber, Alice Suderman & Delbert Goering.

Minutes of September 12, 2006: The minutes were reviewed and accepted as printed. Roger Juhnke moved their acceptance and Wayne Stucky seconded the motion. The board approved.

Treasurers Report: Balances as of November 12, 2006

At The Citizens State Bank

Cemetery Endowment Fund	\$15,671.61
Cemetery Renovation Fund	\$10,008.30

At Mid-Kansas Credit Union

Checking	\$1,401.42
Money Market	\$4,467.49
Share Account	\$ 40.16

Keith reported 92 current members at the time of this meeting.

A question was asked about an electrical repair bill for an outlet at the monument. Also the timing of when the lights are on at the monument.

Jim Goering moved the acceptance of the treasurers' report and Alice Suderman seconded. The board approved.

Fall Festival: Approximately 100 attended the meeting of Only Schwitzer Spoken Here at Bethel College Fall Festival. Don Kaufman was in charge. They plan to meet 3 times a year with one of the meetings being held at Fall Festival. It was a good program.

Banquet: Pictures of the display on the table and what Myron Voran wrote is on the web site. James W. Krehbiels talk will also be put on the web.

Fall seems to be the better time for holding the banquet. Discussion about the location of the banquet raised these questions and thoughts. What does the location have to do with attendance at the banquet? The population of the members are mostly from Newton, Moundridge and Hesston. 6 meals were provided for the quartet and speaker at the banquet.

Trustees Report: Report on Von Petersons work.

Jim Goering pressed him hard for an estimated completion date. Peterson promised. As of November 16, 2006 no response.

Approximately 1/3 of work completed. Arnold Wedel reported his conversation with Von Peterson resulted in a May 25, 2007 completion date.

Perimeter planting:

Following discussion at the Sept Board meeting, four of us visited the site on Oct. 5. A summary of that visit was presented in an e-mail to the full board dated Oct. 6.

The four were: Ruby Stucky, Arnold, Del Goering and Jim Goering.

The proposal to the Board in summary were:

No new plantings along northern edge

No new plantings along eastern edge

New plantings along southern half of western edge (about 110 lineal feet)

Some new plantings along southern edge to fill gaps. Total length about 568 feet, of which perhaps 370 feet in new plantings.

Strongly urge choosing very hardy tree species requiring very little watering, nurturing, e.g. Eastern Red Cedar, perhaps 1-2 years of age, balled, burlapped.

Planting next spring, to be completed no later than April 15, 2007.

Would request bids from three potential bidders, viz., Stone Creek Nursery, Esch Landscaping, Dan Zenger (per Stucky family request).

Total planting of 480 lineal feet @20 feet spacing, would be 24 trees @\$80 would total something in range of \$1,920.

James had no response from any Board member, so assume basic agreement.

Subsequently, Frank Stucky said family is basic agreement with the above, but would request a "few red oaks" to anchor the corners of the northern boundary. He may be referring to red maples. I (James) am seeking clarification.

I (James) spoke with Don Esch regarding this proposal. He made two points: (i) there are hardy species additional to Red Cedar that might be suitable; (ii) He would not bid if only Red Cedar were to be planted, as this would not be financially attractive to him.

My (James) recommendation: We engage Stone Creed Nursery to outline a planting program based on the above considerations. This should focus on low-input plantings. James has a call into Stone Creek for an estimate of this work. No response. Perhaps \$100 as per the feasibility plan developed by Stone Creek for the plantings north of MCC Distribution Center. Need action on this recommendation. Seek authority to engage SC for this planning at a cost in the range of \$100, following which we would prepare bid documents based on the plan.

Jim Goering made the motion that he be allowed to spend \$100 and have Stone Creek Nursery come give suggestions for planting of trees. Roger Juhnke seconded the motion and the Board approved.

It was suggested that a monthly check of SMCHA properties be done by members on the trustee board.

Jim Goering moved that the Chair check out the possibility of holding board meetings at the Hopfield Church. Roger Juhnke seconded the motion and the Board approved.

Web sight: No chair for Web committee as of yet.

Schwitzer Salt: Several people were asked to take the editorial position of Schwitzer Salt. Alice Suderman reported no one accepted.

Suggested individuals from the membership list might be willing to work with Donna. There is no job description for the position of editor. Alice Suderman will see if Donna could draw up a job description. At present it includes news items and historical articles and is issued twice a year.

New Business: Annual business meeting to be held on the 2nd Sunday in March, 2007.

Agenda items for February meeting.

- mowing the cemetery --5 mowings per year
- general clean up
- cemetery conditions
- lights

Next meeting will be on Thursday, February 8, 2007 at 4:15 p.m. at the Citizens State Bank Room in Moundridge.

Jim Goering moved the meeting be adjourned. Roger Juhnke seconded the motion and the board approved by leaving.