

## ST. MICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES: February 8, 2016

Stephen Barthel, vice-president, called the board meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:02 PM in the Library Conference Room. Other directors present were John Jaeb, Bob Zahler, Wayne Kessler, Harry Welter, Earl Vetsch, John Robeck, Rose Ann Gindele, Dan Lenz, Harvey Zahler, and Crystal Sayen. The minutes from the January 11 meeting were approved as read on a motion by Harry and seconded by Earl.

**President's Report** – Sheldon was absent but Steve did mention suggestions from Betty Dirks at the Wright County Historical Society to include on our website links to other historical societies.

**Treasurer's Report** – Lisa was absent but sent in a report. The balance as of 1/11/16 was \$8,791.25. Expenses since the last report were \$0 and deposits were \$240.00. The current balance is \$9,031.25.

**Media Specialist** – Crystal had nothing new to report.

**Membership** – Sheldon wasn't present to report, but Bob did note that he had processed several renewals that had come into the office since last month.

**Curator** - Bob reported that he has been contacted by a local business organization wanting to use old St. Michael photos in their advertising.

**Newsletter** – Bob reported the next newsletter is nearly complete and will feature an article on Bill Kessler's WWI diary and examples of St. Michael's first village ordinances.

**Website** - Steve reported that there are 2791 lines of links to Genealogical Files on our website, and that 90% of these files are now linked to Family Tree in FamilySearch.org. He has also scanned about 90 additional memorial cards.

**Old Timers Interview Committee:** nothing new to report; however, there was some discussion regarding whether the audio files of interviews could be placed on the website. Crystal would look into it.

**Old Business** - none

**New Business** – Annual meeting is coming up in April. We may need people to run for possible open seats on the board.

How do we encourage membership, especially among younger members in the community? Ideas that were brainstormed included services that could be provided in exchange for memberships such as Steve helping people with family research, Crystal taking family photos or providing a photo scanning workshop. Also, members could give gift memberships to children and grandchildren, and flyers could be placed in the library.

**Announcements** – A brief presentation on items from the archives by Curator Bob Zahler will follow the meeting. The next meeting is Monday, March 14, 2016.

**Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn was made by Harry, seconded by Wayne, approved by all. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Zahler, acting secretary