

## ST. MICHAEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY MINUTES: January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Bob Zahler, President, called the Board Meeting of the St. Michael Historical Society to order at 7:01 PM in the Library Conference Room, Room 116. The directors present were Sheldon Barthel, Rose Ann Gindele, Brendan Sage, Dan Lenz, John Robeck, Stephen Barthel, John Jaeb, Wayne Kessler, Lisa Marx, Harvey Zahler, Harry Welter, Earl Vetsch, and Crystal Sayen. The minutes from the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting were corrected for a few typos; Sheldon motioned to accept the amended minutes and Harry seconded. The motion carried.

### Reports & Business

**President's Report** – Bob had noted that he got into the “flow” of cataloging over the break and made some progress.

**Treasurer's Report** – The balance was reported to be at \$7,292.62 with a total of \$126.59 in expenses, and \$716.00 in deposits.

**Website** – As of the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> of January, our website visits number at 403,743 with 2,777 visits just that day! Steve had mentioned that he updated a few things on the family history section of the website. He also shared with the society his journey of contacting people for clarification of the legalities of posting “private” information on the website, and the Minnesota Historical Society gave him some people to contact. Ironically, a man who helped assist Steve - John Hoover - has ties with St. Michael. In efforts to find the regulations on posting newspaper obituaries, Steve got in touch with Star Tribune and they told him that all newspapers before 1924 were public domain. To be safe, Star Tribune suggested to simply post the link of the obituary on the site. He brought some good news to the table as well, announcing that he finished his goal of completing the old cemetery on the website.

**Media Specialist** – Crystal reported that she started inserting numbers on the photograph of the 1931 church jubilee that Bob had sent her.

**Newsletter** – Sheldon has started an article for the next newsletter on Dick Swanson's car that we have used for parades, an article on the Armistice Day Blizzard, etc. The publication for the next newsletter should be ready by next meeting; following that newsletter is the spring edition (May) with a deadline for articles being the end of April.

**Membership** – Sheldon shared that there are a total of 103 members with only 22 members not being paid for the 2013 year. He also stated that the new membership application has helped the society save some money by giving an electronic option of the newsletter via email. Sheldon also sent out another round of reminders to non-paid members; it is working well.

**Old Business** – Bob shared with the society that the old highway sign has been displayed near the city desk in a safe and permanent spot. The board “almost” confirmed that the sign was located on the corner of the rectory. This discussion reminded Bob that he would have to put together a write up on the sign to be put on a plaque. John also mentioned the audit of last years financial records to be scheduled before next meeting.

**New Business** – Bob mentioned that he received an email from someone offering to donate some Bierstube beer mugs, which brought up the idea of having a Bierstube collection. The board informally agreed that if the society were to create a collection, that one mug would be collected from each year. Harry stated that he owned a full double set of mugs from first to last that he would be willing to donate pending his wife's permission. Steve also expressed the idea of taking new photos of all board members following the next election at the annual meeting. Before adjournment, Bob asked members to off input for any events to help advertise the society: show and tell, guest speaker, slideshow of farms, presentation on the change of highway 241, etc.

**Announcements** – The next meeting will take place February 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Library Conference Room.

**Adjournment** – Harry motioned to end the meeting. Lisa seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brendan Sage, Secretary