



MINUTES - SEK Museum Alliance Board Meeting

June 9, 2026

Independence Historical Museum and Art Center, Independence, Ks.

Board members present: Leanne Githens, Ray Rothgeb, Gina McBride, Suzanne Shaffer, Jolene Born, Carol Staton
Absent: Gila LaRue.

President Leanne Githens called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Carol made the motion to accept the agenda and Suzanne seconded, motion carried. Minutes of the March 10th Board meeting was reviewed. Jolene moved to approve the minutes. Gina seconded; motion passed.

Finances – Jolene presented the treasurer's report. The current checking account balance is \$9,568.15 with on outstanding check of \$166.23 leaving a balance of \$9,401.90. CD balance was \$2,000. We had taken in \$665.35 in dues, and \$605 from the magnets. Ray moved to accept the treasurer's report, Carol seconded. Motion carried.

Membership – Jolene shared a listing of museums showing which ones had paid their SEK Alliance dues.

SEKTR Report – Ray didn't have a SEKTR report. Carol asked about the Bandwango subscription that she was receiving emails from SEKTR about it. Ray said it was an APP for Tourist Events. He would talk with Chris to get a better understanding of it; to see if it would be something the Alliance could use.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Future Meeting Dates & Locations**

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ○ September 14, 2026 - Chanute | November 9, 2026 – St. Paul |
| ○ February 8, 2027 – Independence | April 12, 2027 – Cherryvale |

The above dates were confirmed, with the host sites.

- **Future Programs** – Leanne suggested we might get Marla Day to do a talk on storage of textiles. Other program ideas discussed. Carol mentioned that for the February meeting in Independence we could meet at the ICC Fab Lab to show them what services and machines are available. The Board thought it would be nice if we had a speaker from KMA to talk about what they do, services available, scholarships and the up-coming KMA meeting. Also, discussed having a speaker that would explain the process of putting a building on the Kansas State Historical Register.
- **Field Trip to Topeka** –
 - Kansas State Historical Museum – Ray had spoken with Sara Bell the Director about the group tour. She had suggested we might want to consider coming to the Future of Kansas Summit on September 24 and 25th, which would be a conference type format. The board was not interested in this as a group. Individuals may be interested in attending.
 - Ray said our group would be interested in a mixture of walking and presentation time. Topics such as Exhibit preparation, preservation, behind the scene, archival, research possibilities – structure & cost.
 - Date selected for the trip was Wednesday Oct 14.
 - Lunch – box lunches from Engroff were selected.

- Registration - An email would be sent out early July asking for preliminary registration numbers to determine if we need one or two buses. Shoot for Final registration by August 1.
- Cost of the Trip would be \$50.
- Priority will be given to SEK Member Museums with a possible limit of 2 people from the board. Additional registration will be accepted if seating is available.
- Payment not refundable
- Names Tags with Affiliated Museum listed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Scholarships/Grant Publicity -**
 - KMA - publicity out by July with a deadline of August 1, and Announce by August 5
 - Grant - publicity out by Oct 15 and announce November 9 - Prior Year Winner not eligible
 - Be Present Award - winners from previous year are not eligible
- **Marcia Taylor Trump retirement party June 13**
- **Outstanding Bills**
 - Gina presented a bill for \$27.05 for postage. Carol moved to pay and Leann seconded. Motion carried.

Next Board Meeting will be on August 11, 2026 at 9:00 at Independence. Gila will bring snacks.

Carol provided snacks for this meeting.

Adjournment

- Carol moved to adjourn the meeting and Jolene seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.