

Board Meeting Minutes

October 14, 2019

Wilson Co. Historical Museum, Fredonia

Board members present: Ray Rothgeb, Leanne Githens, Billy Lock, Carol Staton, Gina McBride

Board members absent: Terri Harley, Susie Stelle

Ray and Leanne called the board meeting to order at 1pm, with 4 members present. Gina entered the meeting at 1:10.

Election of officers was held. Gina moved and Carol seconded the motion to elect the following slate of officers, who were approved by acclamation:

President – Ray Rothgeb

Vice President – East Region – Billy Lock, West Region – Carol Staton

Secretary – Leanne Githens

Treasurer – Terri Harley

Discussion was held regarding establishing dues and/or funds for publicity/projects. Ray moved and Gina seconded the motion to establish 2 standing committees – Communications, and Projects. Motion carried. Leanne moved and Gina seconded a motion stating that Gina will chair the Communication Committee and Billy will chair the Project Committee with no general dues collected at this time and funds only collected as they might be needed to fund the Passport Project as the committee recommends. Motion passed.

Term limits for officers was discussed. Ray moved and Billy seconded a motion to define the officer terms as 1-year, following the January-December fiscal year calendar.

Clarification of eligibility to be a voting member of the SEK Museum Alliance and serve on the Board of Directors was discussed. Ray moved and Gina seconded a motion defining eligibility as a physical museum and multiple-venue entities operating under one umbrella will have 1 vote. Motion passed.

The 9/21/2019 Member Survey Report was reviewed. Of particular note was the need for “mixers” at each meeting to get better acquainted with each other. The consensus was to add this to each agenda.

Future Alliance Member meetings were discussed.

- Dates - Carol moved and Billy seconded the motion to hold quarterly Alliance Membership meetings on the 2nd Saturday of February, April, September, and November, unless a holiday interferes, and then it would be the following Saturday. Motion passed.
 - o Feb. 8 – location to be announced – Topic - “Preservation for Small Museums”
 - o April 4 – location to be announced – Topic - “Best Practices for Building Exhibits”
 - o Sept. 12 – location and topic to be announced
 - o Nov. 14 – location and topic to be announced
- Locations – Gina will get information out about the dates and ask for volunteers for hosting the meetings. They do not need to be held at the museum, but could be held in a community room, etc.

- Program topics – Based on the Member Survey results, there is strong interest in the topics of “Preservation for Small Museums”, and “Best Practices for Building Exhibits”. Those board members attending the KMA Conference in November will make contacts in an effort to secure presenters.

Alliance Projects were discussed.

- Passport Project – There was discussion about whether it was a separate project from the brochure that was done by several museums. Billy and Ray will work on this in consultation with others.
- Gina will explore the possibility of vinyl window clings that museums could display indicating membership in the SEK Museum Alliance.

Communications and Publicity were discussed.

- Gina will communicate with all Alliance members using a newly created gmail address: sekmuseums@gmail.com. All board members will have the password to communicate with the membership. The Google Calendar also uses this gmail address.
- Billy will work on recruiting more museum members from the East Region by visits and face-to-face communication.
- Facebook – Gina suggested creating both a Closed Group and a Public Page. The closed group would be used for museum solution queries, selling or swapping materials, etc. The public page would communicate with the general public, other museums, and history buffs about our activities. Gina will work on this.
- The general consensus was that an Instagram account and website would be created at a later date.
- It was agreed that there should be one person designated to create a press release following a meeting and this would be distributed by email for all to publish in their local communities. This will send one message to the public regarding the Alliance.

SEK Tourism Group involvement was discussed. No decisions were made at this time, but the consensus was that we want to be involved in the future in both providing information and making the best use of available resources.

The SEK Museum Alliance Mission Statement was discussed. After much discussion, Billy moved and Carol seconded the motion to accept the following Mission Statement, pending approval by the general membership at the February meeting:

“The Mission of the SEK Museum Alliance is to work together to support the museums of Southeast Kansas through promoting their events and activities, sharing resources, and providing learning opportunities to advance our unique histories.”

Motion carried.

The next Alliance Board meeting will be held Jan. 13, 1-3pm, at the Wilson Co. Historical Museum in Fredonia.

Ray declared the meeting adjourned at 3:24pm.

Submitted, Leanne Githens, SEK Museum Alliance Board Secretary