



MINUTES

SEK Museum Alliance Meeting

February 11, 2023

9:00 am – Noon

Host: Independence Historical Museum & Arts Center

**Meeting location:
123 N. 8th, Independence, Ks**

xxx people attended the SEK Museum Alliance quarterly meeting in Independence. SEK Alliance Board President Leanne Githens opened the meeting with welcomes and introductions.

Leanne shared announcements and updates:

- Leanne thanked the Independence Historical Museum for hosting the meeting and introduced the Director Ashley Hough?? She introduced the current Board of Directors of SEK Museum Alliance.

Treasurer Jolene Born reported a balance of \$1,644.57, with \$90 collected today for a total of \$1,734.57 as of February 11, 2023. She reported we had 12 museums and 6 individuals who had paid dues. She gave a recap of the 501© 3 processes which was started in January of 2022 and was confirmed in January of 2023.

Carol Staton reported on SEKTR activities. SEKTR is recognizing SEK Museum Alliance as a partner and we will not be required to pay dues. SEKTR felt the best approach was for SEK Musuem Alliance to represent the museums, rather than them paying dues, but not being considered a voting member.

Leanne stressed the importance of the museums being a member of KMA. She discussed some of the benefits from belonging to KMA such as participation in the Annual Meeting educational sessions and the KMA monthly newsletters which provides reference information.

Gina gave a communications report and asked attendees to make sure their contact information is up-to-date so that information gets to all the people that need it. She told members that the SEK Museum Alliance website and facebook page had a place to pay memberships on line now.

Gina also volunteered to provide assistance to any museum who needs help setting up an email account or Pay Pal/Venmo Account for on-line payments. Leanne gave examples of how she had used Venmo, and encouraged every museum to be sure they had some type of on-line payment available to visitors.

Ray reported that the board has established guidelines for both membership and publicity committees. He called for volunteers for both.

Leanne shared the results of the Video Project Survey and led a discussion about it. Highlights from the survery were: A video would highlight that the museum existed and where was it located, it should be shown at the regional level and beyond, and the video should be somewhere between 1-5 minutes. Leanne announced that the Video Project Committee would meet directly after the Alliance Meeting today. Currently members on the committee are Carl Brenner, Mike Wood, Gina McBride, Ashley Hough and Ray Rothgeb. The committee will gather information and make recommendations to the Board on length of video, who should be included, and how it will be funded.

Marcia Taylor conducted a sharing time for Museum Successes and Challenges in the last 3 months.

The educational program explaining the “Abandoned Atlas Foundation, and Abandoned Kansas” was presented by Emily Cowen and Michael Schwarz. Abandoned Atlas Foundation was started in 2008 and currently covers eight states. It involves young people in history and preservation of abandoned sites and works to help with historical preservation of buildings.

The Independence Historical Museum & Art Center host presentation was conducted by Ashley Hough.

The next meeting will be held April 15 in Yates Center with the program to be announced.

A soup and sandwich lunch was provided by the museum for a donation.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Staton, Board Secretary