



## MINUTES - SEK Museum Alliance Board Meeting

January 13, 1-3pm

Wilson County Historical Museum, 420 N 7<sup>th</sup>, Fredonia, KS

Board members present: Ray Rothgeb, Leanne Githens, Carol Staton, Gina McBride, Terri Harley

President Ray Rothgeb called the meeting to order at 1pm, with 5 members present.

The minutes of the Oct. 14 board meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

**Passport Project report** - Ray gave a Passport Project Committee report. Following the untimely death of Billy Lock, Ray appointed Ali Hamilton, director of the Trading Post Museum in Pleasanton as chairperson of this committee. Additional committee members are Jolene Born, Jacque Borgeson-Zimmer, Sylvia Augustine, and Marcia Taylor. A total of 14 people attended the meeting. Project aspects discussed were:

- Passport Design – content, size, material
- Cost – how much and who pays
- Participating Museums – how selected and responsibility
- Time Frame
- Incentives
- Patron Participation – Cost vs. Free, location of Passports for distribution
- Promotion

Recommendations at this time include: one person per county responsible for collecting information forms for the county, a slight participation fee per museum to cover costs, no cost to the consumer for the passport, and a “dummy” copy ready to share at the April 4 SEK Museum Alliance meeting. A more complete committee report will be shared with the membership at the Feb. 8 meeting.

**Vinyl Clings/stickers** - Gina presented 2 options for vinyl window clings/stickers for museums to post showing their membership in the SEK Museum Alliance. Carol moved that museums receive the logo sticker when they participate in the Passport Project. Terri seconded the motion. Motion carried. Anticipated cost is less than \$5 per vinyl cling/sticker.

**East-West Region division clarification** – After much discussion about how to classify museums whose towns fall along Hwy 169, the board reaffirmed the goal of having balanced participation and representation in the East and West Regions. Ray moved to leave the designation as it was at the time of balloting in November. Carol seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Mission Statement Review** - The board reaffirmed the proposed mission statement to be presented for approval at the general meeting February 8.

*“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.”*

**Communication Committee Report** – Gina sought clarification on several aspects of the Alliance communications:

- Distribution of minutes –
  - Following board review of board meeting and general meeting minutes written by secretary Leanne, Gina will distribute them by email.
- Distribution of committee reports –
  - Committees will report in writing to the board, and these reports will be attached to the board minutes.
- Distribution of information to tourism groups –
  - Terri moved that it be the responsibility of the President to represent the Alliance at SEK Tourism Group meetings. Gina seconded the motion. Motion carried
- General membership meeting notices –
  - The host of the general meetings will be responsible for sending out the invitation by “snail mail”. Gina will follow up with an email blast.
- General membership news items –
  - The Alliance gmail account will be used for general communications. Calendar submission requests can be communicated to this address:  
sekmuseums@gmail.com
- Public news releases –
  - The board will be looking for an individual to be a “reporter” for the general meetings, write a press release to be approved by the board, and then released to news outlets.
- Technology – Facebook and/or website –
  - Ray moved for Gina to create a public Facebook page with the name “SEK Museum Alliance”. Terri seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - Ray has purchased a domain name for the Alliance in the event that a decision is made in the future to have a website. There are no immediate plans for a website.

**Board Member Position Openings** – There are currently 2 open positions on the board, those previously held by Billy Lock and Susie Stelle. Due to a number of factors, Susie Stelle has declined participation in the Alliance as a board member, rather choosing to volunteer in other ways. Ray made a motion to have the board determine replacements for board memberships between elections. Gina seconded the

motion. Motion carried. After discussion, Leanne moved that the President pursue filling the two positions at his discretion with the goal of having those filled by the next general meeting. Carol seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Finalizing Next General Meeting Plans** – The Benson Historical Museums, Howard, Marcia Taylor, director, will host the Feb. 8 meeting. Agenda plans were reviewed. Ray moved to approve the agenda as discussed and amended. Carol seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ray will follow up on several items.

The next SEK Alliance Board meeting will be held Monday, March 9, 1 pm, at the Wilson County Historical Museum, Fredonia.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.