



MINUTES

SEK Museum Alliance Meeting

Nov. 12, 2022

9:00 am – Noon

Host: Osage Mission-Neosho Co. Museum

Meeting location:
205 Washington St. St. Paul. KS

Thirty people attended the SEK Museum Alliance quarterly meeting in St. Paul. SEK Alliance Board President Ray Rotheb opened the meeting with welcomes and introductions.

Ray shared announcements and updates:

- Ray reminded the group that we are a membership based organization and encouraged all to join the Alliance by paying dues.

Treasurer Jolene Born reported a balance of \$1,394,57 as of October 31, 2022.

Jolene reported that the 501(c)3 application is still in process.

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

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.

Ray reported on the KMA Conference Nov. 7-9 in Topeka. Marcia Taylor-Trump presented a session on our successful Passport Project and it was well received. She also highlighted remarks by John Folk, Keynote Speaker, on the Value of Museums. The study he conducted concludes that the value to visitors is in their EXPERIENCE, rather than in our STUFF. Donna Ray Pearson was also a speaker of note, talking about "The Stories We Tell", and reminding us to tell our whole story, and not just start our stories at the point of white settlement. Leanne mentioned the importance of making connections with others in the museum industry at the KMA Conference, both in learning from them as well as sharing what makes our museums unique. Caney Historical Society received a grant at the conference, and it was presented to Gina at today's meeting, as she was unable to attend the conference.

Ray shared the results of the Video Project Survey and led a discussion about it. Several people indicated an interest in being on the committee and provided ideas. The specific survey results will be provided to the newly developed committee. Development of the project will continue.

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

Following the break, Board Member elections for both the East and West Region were held. In the absence of a second candidate, Phyllis Bitner made a motion to re-elect Gina McBride from Caney to the West Region position. Carol Staton seconded the motion. Motion carried. There were two candidates for the East Region position, so an election was conducted. LeNoir Rowland from Erie was elected to the East Region Position. Ed Born was thanked for his service to the Alliance by representing the East Region.

The educational program, "Researching Your Home and the People Who Lived There" was presented by Diana Staresinic-Deane. She gave a very helpful handout of resources, both in print and online, that will assist researchers.

The Osage Mission-Neosho Co. Museum host presentation was conducted by Jolene and Ed Born. The next meeting will be held Feb. 11 in Independence, with the program presented by Emily Cowen of AbandonedKansas.com.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Leanne Githens, Board Secretary