



## MINUTES

SEK Museum Alliance Meeting

Feb. 12, 2022

9:00 am – Noon

**Host: Chanute Historical Museum  
Chanute Memorial Building  
Alliance Rm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
101 S Lincoln  
Chanute, KS 66720**

Thirty-one people attended the SEK Museum Alliance quarterly meeting in Chanute. SEK Alliance Board President Ray Rotheb opened the meeting with welcomes and introductions. First-time attendees were acknowledged.

Due to illness, the planned speaker, Kelli Orender with TravelKS, was not able to attend.

Treasurer Jolene Born reported a balance of \$1,522.72 as of January 15, 2022. The treasurer's report was accepted as presented by consensus.

Ray shared a series of announcements and updates:

- Participants were encouraged to complete the Passport Survey if they have not already done so.
- The SEK Museum Alliance rack cards have arrived and were shared for distribution. SEKTR racks will be placed in Casey's and Pumpin' Pete's convenience stores.
- Mugs are still available for purchase. The cost to the Alliance has been fully covered to date and we are in the profit zone now.
- The Organizational Survey was completed by 27 Alliance participants. The results confirmed our present meeting dates, days of the week, weeks of the month, and times of day. The current board structure and length of terms was also endorsed. The question of establishing membership dues was answered overwhelmingly with a "yes". The amount of dues suggested varied from \$5 to \$100 per year.

Ray and Leanne reviewed the discussion the board had regarding proposing a dues structure. In addition to considering the results of the Organizational Survey, the board looked at dues structures from Kansas Museum Association (KMA) as well as other museum groups. Some based their dues on the size of the budget, some on the amount of paid staff, and some a combination of both. The board chose to recommend a dues structure based on the size of the museum's budget, and in alignment with KMA. The discussion and questions from attendees included: rational for the amount for business/industry, will there be membership cards, suggestions for including a student membership level, and the benefits of membership.

The proposed dues structure is:

- SEK-MA Institutional Membership
  - Level 1 - \$25 (budget less than \$10,000)
  - Level 2 - \$50 (budget more than \$10,000)
- SEK-MA Individual Membership
  - Regular: \$20
- SEK-MA Business/Industry Membership
  - Business/Industry Member: \$100

Lois Carlson made a motion to approve the presented dues structure with tasking the board to consider a program for student involvement. Emma Crites seconded the motion. Motion carried by acclamation.

Questions about ways to pay membership were discussed. PayPal was suggested. At present dues should be mailed to: SEK Museum Alliance, PO Box 381, Independence, KS 67301.

Marcia Taylor, Passport Project Chair reported on the prize drawing held January 21 in Fredonia. Present were board members Ray Rothgeb, Leanne Githens, and Marcia Taylor. Fredonia librarian Chanda Ecton, and Wilson County Historical Society & Museum board member Emma Crites conducted the drawing. There were a total of thirty-one entries in the contest. Winners were:

\$100 – 10 museums visited – Jamie Ramsey Goodwin, Independence

&150 – 15 museums visited – Phyllis Nelson, Mound City

\$200 – 20 museums visited – Juanita Alloway, Parsons

\$250 – 25 museums visited – Patrick Black, Mound City

\$300 – 30 museums visited – Summer Salzwedel, Iola

Marcia reported that the project was a success, garnering the Alliance a Graphic Design Award at the November KMA convention, recognition in local papers, advertising connections, increased visitors to many museums, and connections were made within and outside our museums.

Carol Staton, 2022 Project Chair, presented a recap of the project: “Day Trippin’ Driving Tours – SEK Museums & More”. These tours are all about telling the story of our area wherever you go in the region. Carol has developed a multi-page worksheet to help participants plan and implement successful tours and several museums reported that they have begun planning. Liability releases and emergency contact information forms were discussed. Museums may want to check if their insurance covers off-site activities. Advertising on the SEK-MA website will take place when museums finalize their plans. Carol presented a flyer template that museums can use by contacting Leanne Githens and providing their information.

Museum Successes and Challenges in the last 3 months were shared. With the cancellation of the planned speaker, there was more time for sharing and discussion.

Nancy Kernick of Chanute shared the obituary of Roy Parsons, McCune, who passed away recently. The vision and energy he brought to the museum in McCune was highlighted. He will be missed!

Ray reminded attendees that Kelli Orender has emailed a link to the KS Tourism webpage and some of her planned presentation can be found there.

Gila LaRue with the Chanute Historical Museum, and Cindy Dent with the Osa and Martin Johnson Safari Museum shared historical information about their institutions and informed the group of upcoming events. Of particular note was Cindy’s story of ghosts in the Safari Building.

Ray announced that the next Alliance general meeting will take place in Sedan on April 9. The educational portion of the meeting, “Digging in the Morgue – A News Writer’s Perspective”, will be presented by Andy Taylor.

Attendees were encouraged to pick up an “Application to Host a General Meeting” form, as well as the membership application.

A sandwich luncheon was available for a small donation, and the museum was open for tours in the afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,

Leanne Githens, Board Secretary