



Meeting Minutes
St. Louis Park Historical Society
April 10, 2018

St Louis Park Historical Society
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Attending: President Ted Ekkers; Treasurer Henry Solmer; Trustees Bill Beyer, Ingrid Moe, Jim Robbins, John Olson, and Rick Sewall; Members Sue Ainsworth, Bill MacMillan and Don Schimmel.

GOVERNANCE:

- Nomination of Bill MacMillan to Trustee, term ending in September 2019. Bill introduced himself, shared his background and interests in Park History. Ted shared how Bill will be a great asset to the organization for Strategic Planning, Membership, and Fundraising. The vote in favor of nomination was unanimous.
- March Minutes were reviewed and approved with a correction regarding attendees.
- Treasurer's Report: Henry presented his report and it was submitted to the Board.
- Membership Report: After reminder letters were sent to describe the change back to Calendar year membership cycle, we now are back to 200 paid members. Additional letters will be sent later in the year.
- *Re-Echo* Update: Ingrid reported that we are think on content for April, but we should remain on track to publish later in the month. We discussed whether we should list all members on the back page, or just new members given space constraints and that most members will all renew at the same time going forward. Ingrid will decide based on space and membership names what will be best.
- Membership Committee Formation – Ted and Bill MacMillan discussed creating a Membership Committee that has A Corporate and Residential component to it. Bill has passion and success in partnering with corporations to support non-profits. Bill will lead both the Committee as well as the Corporate sub-committee. Residential will continue to be led by current volunteers from the Board throughout the year.
- Executive Advisory Committee – An idea was discussed to find a few prominent people associated with St. Louis Park to serve in a more advisory role, perhaps meeting two or three times a year to provide strategic direction to the organization. It was decided to pursue the idea officially once we had at least one person interested.
- College Intern Idea – Ted proposed investing some funds into hiring a college intern for the summer. Given the challenges recently getting content for the *Re-Echo*, administrative tasks complete, and other ideas not pursued, he thought it would be an investment that could get us organized and able to invite more volunteers to help after the summer. Consensus from the Board was that while there was certainly a need, there was concern spending the money without clearer tasks identified and an understanding who would oversee the work, and the unknowns of

employing someone for the first time. We will revisit the idea, as well as think about volunteer roles for administrative duties.

- Depot Painting – Ted reported he was coordinating with the City to have the Depot painted. City staff is figuring out supplies and costs, and Ted will look at applying for a Legacy Grant to help fund the project.
- Future Meeting Cancellation Process – The Board meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for the 10th due to a large snow storm. Ted noted that we don't have a policy for how much notice is needed before canceling a Board meeting due to poor weather. He passed around a contact sheet to ensure we have a list of all Board Members and other members who often attend meetings so we could ensure meeting cancellations got through in a timely manner.

PROGRAMMING

- Reminder of upcoming events, if interested to help staff the table, let Ted know:
 - Sunday May 13, 2-5pm – children First ice Cream Social at the ROC
 - Saturday June 16, 10am-6pm – Parktacular at Wolfe Park

STRATEGIC PLANNING AND FUNDRAISING

- Bill Beyer requested approval to write a letter to Al Franken on behalf of the Board suggesting he consider donating some of his unused funds to the Historical Society. There was agreement from the Board that it was worth trying to reach out.

ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next Board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, at 7:00 pm in the Society's office.