

St. Louis Park Historical Society Board Meeting

August 11, 2026

Minutes

Attending: Attending, Ted Ekkers, President; Lynne Carper, Vice President; Kathy Spence Johnson, Secretary; Trustees, John Olson, Doug Johnson, Scott Ross, Rick Sewall, Jim McDonough, Bill Beyer, Online, Mary Lou Nemanic.

Minutes-The Minutes were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report- We reviewed the spreadsheet Henry provided. Accepted as written.

Membership-We reviewed Lynne's report. Currently we have 132 members. 10 are new this year. There are two new business members. We discussed thanking business members on our Facebook page. Jim has contacted Nina at the Sun Sailor, and he will provide her with our calendar of events.

Scott will be taking over as membership chair as Lynne steps down from chairing.

Scott suggested we offer ideas for pictures/photographs that businesses could display on their walls.

Office Hours-8/15-Ted, 8/22-Henry, 8/29-Bill, 9/5-Doug, 9/12-Scott.

September 8, 2026, is our annual meeting. We discussed places where we might meet. We have used Byerlys Community Room in the past. John will check to see if it is available.

Collective Access-Kathy reported that we continue to add items to the catalogue and provided some of them online at Minnesota Collections. She reported that Collective has had some problems uploading items this summer, but they are fixing the problems.

Donations-Copies of Joel Clough correspondence from 1864-65 on CD, Mark Thornsjo donated an LP, "St. Louis Park High School Select Choir and Mixed Chorale 1966-1967", and a Holiday Concert Program 1967, Steel Toe Brewing Coaster, Abra Auto Body keyring, Peggy Flanagan for Senate button, 2026 Graduation Program.

Research-Craig Holm asked if we had a newspaper article about a fire in his family's home at 3317 Texas in 1965. Kathy found an article in the Dispatch on microfilm about his mother saving his baby sister during the fire.

Century House plaques-The Bobbi Deeney and Jill Larson plaques are here and will be presented to the families.

Re-echo-Bill reported he is working on the new issue on Nordic Ware. He is working on interviewing someone there.

Bill did the Skunk Hollow walking tour June 17th, and it was a two-part morning and afternoon model with lunch in between. It went well.

Larry Kraft contacted Bill about a legislative group tour. Bill provided a tour for them.

Bill is on the Board of Hennepin History Museum. He will be doing a program on October 31 about Governor Floyd Olson. They are creating a brochure related to this.

Depot Open House-The Depot Open House August 1, was well attended. They estimate about 50 people were there. People enjoyed the recording of the MN&S locomotive whistle. It was suggested we have a more complete explanation of what the Smash board was.

Jim shared that Park Theater Company Talent Show is August 12.

Lynne shared that his wife is creating a Senior Podcast for the Senior Program at Lenox. There are opportunities to be involved. Robbinsdale has a similar podcast.

Kathy reminded us that the Depot will have its 140 Anniversary in 2027. We can use this as an opportunity to share more about it and have programs and events around this date.

Kathy shared that she would like to get a couple of Collection items conserved. The Clough farm painting and the 1880's map at the Depot. She will contact the Midwest Art Conservation Center about how to start this process.

Adjourned,

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Sence Johnson, Secretary