

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HSDV JANUARY 20, 2010

Meeting called to order by President Laura Tennant at 12:30 at the Dayton Library.

As this was the first meeting of 2010 and it was attended many new members, Laura suggested each member introduce themselves.

Minutes of the November 2009 general meeting were approved on a motion by Vicki Kinney and a second by Vivian Smith. A revised Contact List was passed out to all members in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Grace supplied a report for November 2009 as well as one for December 2009. The balance as of 11/30/09 was \$4,047.05 and as of 12/31/09, \$2990.13. Copies were supplied to all members in attendance. The only correspondence was notification from the Dayton Chamber that this year Oodles of Noodles will take place on May 15, 2010.

Remarks from President Laura Tennant: Laura in her first meeting of the year emphasized the importance of each of the members of the Society and stressed that the Board was in place to serve the general members and streamline business that was to come to the Society. Board meetings are open to all members and they are encouraged to attend and make suggestions or voice concerns. Every member is urged to participate in Society activities, at a level they are comfortable with.

Historical Point: Laura stated that she would provide a historical tidbit at the meetings and for this meeting she displayed a recently acquired photo of the Dayton Episcopal Church. It was passed around and will be on display in the museum.

OLD BUSINESS:

Depot Project: Tom Parcells reported that state funding had been cut back and it is probable the Depot Project will not receive funding at this time. Next information available will follow a mid February meeting of the state agency. Tom recommended the Society investigate alternative fund raising activities and possible grants. He suggested a Depot cleanup project to help keep the public aware of its needs. Tom commented that the old "Save the Station" sign is missing and we should look for it in the outbuildings etc.

Docent Manual: Pat Neylan reported that after two years of work under the leadership of Ruby McFarland the docent training manual is nearing completion. It will contain a welcome to new docents, open/closing procedures, cash register operation instructions as well as 20 specific chapters dealing with major museum displays. It is hoped to have it completed before the events in May.

Firehouse/Jail: Laura Tennant reported that the stabilization project is near completion. Stony Tennant has crafted new doors from old wood etc for the building. Gary McElroy is completing the final reports to SHIPO that will reflect the project having been completed under budget with approximately \$13,000 to be returned to the state. "In Kind" contributions have totaled more than \$30,000. Stony is working on a commemorative plaque to be mounted on a boulder near the building that will tell the story of the project and thank those who helped make it possible. Individual thank you gestures will be sent to all who participated.

NEW BUSINESS:

School Program: Vicki Kinney and Barbara Peck reported the plans for this year. Barbara will provide introductory lesson for each class and prior to the appearance of the "ghosts". She would like to see a

follow-up walking tour of Old Town for the kids and their parents to reinforce the lessons learned and bring more focus of the community to our history. She suggested moving the program in the future from around March, to September as this would stimulate more interest in the students for other events, such as Dayton Valley Days, that focus on Old Town and Dayton's early history. There is a need for additional historic characters to expand the program. If interested call Vicki, 246-9396. Linda Adams suggested some facets of this program be incorporated in the library program also.

Docent Program: Donna McElroy announced a docent meeting on 1/27/10 at 10:30am at the museum. All are welcome to attend, especially anyone wishing more information about becoming a docent. She stressed that training is available for new docents and that we will utilize a buddy system until a docent feels comfortable working alone. Staffing the museum for the coming season will be discussed. The official opening date has not been announced and will be dependent on the weather. Donna noted that prior to opening we need our annual clean up day at the museum. Ruby stated that our goal is to make the museum "user friendly" and stressed the need to give accurate information and not to be afraid to say "I don't know, let me find out". Bob Wallace produces the Docent Newsletter (246-8316) and all society members are encouraged to contribute to it. Perhaps a review of a book you have read that pertains to Nevada, the Comstock etc, or a description of a local place of historical interest, a railroad story.....anything that you think would be of interest to other members.

Scrapbooks: Mabel Masterman expressed the importance of providing her with photos of our activities, brief write-ups by members, printed articles etc. Albums from past years are on display at the museum. They are a treasure now and for years to come. They do not just "come down from Rawe Peak", Mabel works all year to create one and record our society history so let's give her a hand.

Open Time for Members: Grace reported that Dell would like to set up a quilt show outdoors this spring. We should charge admission and have a silent auction.

Laura Tennant mentioned that in June there will be a Pony Express event in Dayton.

Donna McElroy suggested an art show in conjunction with the RR Event at the Depot in April (24th). Marty Lewis mentioned that the Friends of the Library have access to 21 western paintings done by Don Smiley. Their exposure might add to sales that would benefit the Friends. Other local artist welcome.

Marty Lewis reported that the Friends of the Library solicit new members in January. The Friends are paying for new library landscaping in the face of county budget cuts.

Linda Adams reminded us that we have \$640 (Room Tax) available for bumper stickers for the April RR event but must act soon so as not to lose it.

Judy Harris reported that new accession forms are available. Items must have Comstock roots.

Donna McElroy mentioned a photo exhibit in Reno and suggested a group tour in early February.

On a motion from Ruby and a second from Tom, the meeting was closed at 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Neylan, Secretary HSDV

