

2018
Annual Report



Chippewa County
Historical Society

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2018 Annual Report

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Executive Board

Bob Berven, President David Lauritsen, Vice-President
Carol Thomton, Secretary JoAnn Grote & Wayne Thalberg, Treasurers

Board of Directors

Terms will expire in April, 2019

Wayne Thalberg Fifth District
Waunita Kanten At-Large Representative

Terms will expire in April, 2020

Bob Berven At-Large Representative
JoAnn Grote Fourth District
David Lauritsen First District

Terms will expire in April, 2021

Michelle Molden Aschemann At-Large Representative
Barb Oleson Third District
Carol Thomton Second District

Appointments

David Lieser, County Commissioner
Debra Lee Fader, City Appointment

Endowment Board

Bob Berven, CCHS President
Audrey Arner - Board Appointment

Larry Larson April, 2019 Marlin Schoep April, 2020
Sue Kempe April, 2020 Scott Lynne April, 2021
Carol Westberg April, 2021



Minutes

**Annual Meeting Minutes
Chippewa County Historical Society
Big Bend Lutheran Church
Tuesday, March 27, 2018**

The Annual Meeting of the Chippewa County historical Society was called to order by President David Lieser at 6:05 p.m. President Lieser asked Secretary Carol Thomton if a quorum was present, and she indicated that a quorum was present.

A motion was made by Carol Thomton and seconded by JoAnn Grote to dispense with the reading of the Minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting and to approve the minutes as printed in the Annual Report. The motion carried.

Members were directed that reports of officers, directors, and sites could be read in the annual report. No oral reports were given.

The Endowment Board report was given by Audrey Arner. Audrey gave an appeal for funds and for volunteers to fill two Board vacancies. Dinner attendees were encouraged to empty coins from their pockets and to put the change into the big jars circulated by two Endowment Board members. In addition, many attendees had brought coin jars and emptied those into the jars. Two drawings for dinner for two at the Swensson Farm Museum were held and the winners were Steven and Karen Kling and Krystal Lynne. Bob & Dianne Berven donated a granite clock for the raffle which was won by Dorraine Thompson.

Bob Berven presented the Financial Report which begins on page 20 of the Annual Report.

A motion was made by Judi Bohm and seconded by Richard Handeen to approve the Financial Report as presented in the Annual Report. The motion carried.

David Lauritsen presented the Nominating Committee report. For the At-Large Board position, Michelle Molden Ascherman was nominated.



Minutes

A motion was made by Bob Berven and seconded by Dixie Tilden to approve the nomination of Michelle Molden Ascherman to the At-Large position on the Board of the Historical Society. The motion carried.

David Lauritsen asked for nominations for the Endowment Board of Directors.

A motion was made by Audrey Arner and seconded by Dixie Tilden to approve the nomination of Scott Lynne to the Endowment Board of Directors. The motion carried. (Carol Westberg later agreed to serve on the Endowment Board)

The following slate of officers for the Historical Society Board was presented: President Bob Berven, Vice President Dave Lauritsen, Treasurer shared by Wayne Thalberg and Joann Grote, Secretary Carol Thomton.

A motion was made by David Lauritsen and seconded by Marlin Schoep to approve the slate for the officers for the Board of Directors. The motion carried.

President Lieser asked the County Commissioners to stand and thanked them for their continued support. He also asked the current Board members to stand and introduced them. Past Board members were also asked to stand and were acknowledged. Big Bend Lutheran Church was thanked for hosting our Annual Meeting and Banquet and Trish Kruger was thanked for catering the meal. John Handeen was thanked for providing the evening program on the history of the Big Bend/Hagen area. A round of applause was given to thank all of those who helped with the event.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Wayne Thalberg and seconded by Bob Berven. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. by President Lieser and the evening program was held in the sanctuary of the church.

President's Report

Dear CCHS Members,

Sincerely,
Bob Berven
President

Director's Report

When we least expect it, life sets us a challenge to test our courage and willingness to change; at such a moment, there is no point in pretending nothing has happened or in saying we are not ready. The challenge will not wait. ~Paulo Coelho

For all of us here at the Chippewa County Historical Society, this has indeed been a year of challenges that were unexpected and would not wait.

As I begin my second year at the Historical Society, I think back about coming to work as June's assistant last April. She had been a friend for many years and I always enjoyed coming down to the Village for a chat. When the assistant position came open I knew it would be an enjoyable job with June as my boss. I learned so much from her and we continued to have good chats while working. Midsummer, when I knew the job was going to end in September, I was sad to think of the end of my seasonal job. When June's illness presented and it's seriousness became evident, my staying on seemed likely until a new director was found. One thing led to another, and here I am, attempting to fill very big shoes. What has given me the courage to stay and learn this position is all of you, the members of the Chippewa County Historical society. Your support is treasured and many times what keeps me going when I'm not sure what to do. Some days and weeks are more challenging than others, but with the help of the Board of Directors, Endowment Board, staff, volunteers and many others, so far the challenges are being met. A few mistakes have been made here and there but overall we are able to keep this organization going and thriving. Thank you to all who make this possible.

Now for the report about our year! Though I was not here for the first few months of last year, I know that June would have been finishing end-of-year tasks, taxes and reporting, planning for the Annual Banquet and Meeting, getting things in order for and sending out registration forms for Heritage Week, tending to the membership drive, writing the monthly newsletter, Pioneer Crier, having monthly Board of Directors & quarterly Endowment Board meetings, hosting a visitor from Uruguay, attending meetings, researching, making phone calls, printing and mailing membership cards...whew! Now you know that winter is not a relaxing time!

Beginning in April, I was able to observe what went on in the office. June was often on the phone making some connection or another, arranging for volunteers, doing research or sometimes just chatting with a member. She loved spending time doing research on the Olaf Swensson family descendants and she even found a member of the most recent generation of the family on Face-Book! What I do know about the work here at the Society is that there is never time to get bored! The work is interesting and varied and plentiful. There is always something for volunteers to do, so if you have some time call the office and we can put your talents to use for everything from office work to cleaning. On the subject of cleaning, the entire Village is given a thorough cleaning in April. Did you know that we move and dust every single artifact and shelf in the General Store? Thankfully we have several volunteers helping with that building and many others are cleaned by Adopt-a-Building Sponsors.

