

Board of Directors
Boone County Historical Society
February 18, 2025

Board Members present: Gina DelRose (President), Jeff Walton (Vice President), Heidi Thacker (Secretary), Sonya Dobberfuhr (Treasurer), Jenny Breckenridge, Toni Ellingson, Sue Holmes, Gail Jacky, Cheryl Lindberg, Cindy Poulter, Jason Sanford

Past President present: Carol Rowe

Board members absent: Don Banks, Micki Ernest

Staff present: Natali Monaghan, Chris Gardner

District board member present: John Wolf

The meeting was called to order by President Gina DelRose at 5:30 PM. Roll Call, the Pledge of Allegiance, Invocation by Gina DelRose, and recitation of the Society Mission Statement followed.

Secretary's Report

- No additions or corrections were requested for the minutes of the December 2024 meeting. Motion was made by Sonya Dobberfuhr and seconded by Jenny Breckenridge to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

- A Statement of Financial Position, January to December 2024, was submitted to the Board. The net income for the Society for the year was -\$10,275.28. The Society saw strong returns on its investments, and the annual appeal brought substantial contributions. Net income for the Funderburg House for the year was -\$20,220.49.
- Historical Society and Funderburg House Statements of Financial Income and Expense for January 2025 were provided to Board members. Net ordinary income for the Society was -\$3,126.69. For the Funderburg House, net ordinary income was -\$1736.29.
- Regarding the Statement of Financial Position as of January 31, 2025, it was noted that the Society was able to meet its financial obligations without drawing from its investments.
- A motion was made by Jenny Breckenridge and seconded by Cheryl Lindberg to accept the financial reports. Motion carried.

District Report

- John Wolf attended the meeting in order to present the District report. Phase 1 of the HVAC project in the back of the museum has been completed, with Phases 2 and 3 planned for the future.
- Following the replacement of a broken, vandalized window in the old bank area of the museum, a decision was made to caulk and seal all windows in that section.
- The District continues to work on insurance renewals.
- Regarding the Cooperative Agreement between the Society and the District, John noted that the District ended the year on a positive note; however, the anticipated tax revenue will probably fall short of covering expenses going forward. Additionally, heating and air conditioning for the bank portion of the building will need to be addressed within the next few years. Jason emphasized that this will be a costly project, potentially 30 to 40% higher than 2024 costs, particularly due to the requirement for a new mandatory environmentally-friendly refrigerant.

Museum Staff Report

- New exhibits are currently being developed at the museum.
 - Chris shared details about an upcoming exhibit in the Wolf Gallery, which will feature items that were once handmade at home before mass production became widespread.
 - Bri is continuing her work on the Indigenous Peoples exhibit, while Troy and Gary are focused on constructing display cases for her. Lori Pepper has generously contributed a taxidermy porcupine to the exhibit.
 - The new version of the Hispanic Heritage exhibit is also coming together. Lori Pepper has donated several items that were part of the previous exhibit, and ESL teachers in School District 100 are working to collect histories from local families.
- Over 40 participants are currently signed up for Clue and Fondue, which will take place on Saturday, February 22. Sonya has assembled actors for all the roles and has designated each room to align more closely with the game board. It is expected that the event will at least break even financially.
- The February lecture that had to be rescheduled due to inclement weather will take place Saturday, February 22, at 1:00 PM.

Committee Reports

- Nomination Committee: No report.
- Membership Committee: Memberships have been increasing in number.
- Fundraising Committee: Committee will meet soon. Natali is hoping to focus on events that are less costly for participants and more family-oriented. Possibilities include more Paint and Sip experiences and movie nights at the museum.
- Volunteer Committee: Two new volunteers have begun working at the museum.
- Finance Committee: No updates.

- Funderburg House Committee: The first full wedding package has been booked for October.
- Several miscellaneous items were mentioned:
 - The Celebration of Life packages at the museum have become popular, with the support of Anderson Funeral Home.
 - The museum Easter event is planned for April.
 - Preparations for the summer general membership meeting, likely to be held in mid-July, need to start soon.
 - The Art Show, in collaboration with the Boone County Arts Council and the Belvidere Township Park District, will be held June 8.

Old Business

- Copies of the proposed edits to the Cooperative Agreement were distributed. The proposed changes were reviewed by Carol. The most significant point coming out of discussions is that close collaboration between the Society and the District is essential. A motion was made by Jenny Breckenridge to approve the Cooperative Agreement, pending edits and review of Exhibits A and B; Toni Ellingson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Business

- A proposal is being made to modify the bylaws to include attendance guidelines. Gina provided a sample from the Community Action Agency Bylaws that states, "Board members are expected to attend regularly scheduled meetings. Any Board member missing three consecutive meetings during the year shall be replaced on the Board." Gina invited the board to consider a change such as this and suggested that members propose any additional bylaw adjustments they deem important. Further discussion will continue in the future.

Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.
- The next meeting will be March 18, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Thacker

February 19, 2025

