

**Evansville Grove Society, Inc.**  
**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**  
**26 February 2025**  
**Historic Baker Building**

- I. **Call to Order** - President Kris Thome called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
- II. **Roll Call** - Members attending: Kris Thome, Arthur McEvoy, Berta Hansen, Donna Hamilton, Judy Nichols, Marcia Kremer, Dan Stephans. Guests: Bill Lathrop and Dottie Dykstra
- III. **Draft Agenda** – Draft agenda approved by Judy and Marcia.
- IV. **Motion to Approve Minutes** – Donna made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2025 meeting. Seconded by Art. Motion carried.
- V. **Website update by Bill Lathrop** – Bill Lathrop showed us the new website he created with additional pages, buttons on top for quick retrieval, and drop-downs. He went over Word Press, which he recommends, and asked for additional ideas for the website. Some ideas given were: genealogy, Walking Tour, and Museum updates, along with a link to Ruth Ann Montgomery’s site. Any further suggestions are to go thru Kris, who will be in contact with Bill. Donna made a motion to accept the usage of Word Press, Judy seconded. Motion carried.
- VI. **Treasurer’s Report** –
  - a. January Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Financial Income and Expense were presented for review. Assets as of February 26<sup>th</sup> are: \$100 PayPal; \$10624.74 CD; \$3180.98 checking; and \$8203.08.
  - b. Kris made a motion to approve January 2025 financials, seconded by Berta. Motion carried.
  - c. Marcia advised of two possible renewal options for the CD, which is coming due on 3-20-2025: 13 month at 3.09% and 22 month at 3.55%. The group preferred the 13-month timeframe to prevent money from being tied up too long.
  - d. Marcia advised that we’ve received the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin (CFSW) annual payment of \$781.
- VII. **Correspondence/Donations** –
  - a. Laura Hoekstra, WI Historical Society, reached out re: any possible impact to the Museum property due to roadwork that is being started in Evansville in April 2030.
  - b. Kris has contacted Jim Brooks re: the lease ending May 2025. He advised they will be renewing the lease. Kris will speak with him re: paying rent on time.
- VIII. **Membership Committee Report** – Donna reported a membership count of 74 to date. Marcia reported monies totaling: \$1485 membership; \$1570 donations; and an unknown donor of \$45. Marcia has reached out to Kristi Jones to ascertain if she is the donor, but has yet to get a response back.
- IX. **Old Business** –
  - a. Ethel Gibbs backdrop: there are no climate-controlled storage units available at Helgesen’s, where the current rate for our non-climate-controlled unit is \$285 every three months. Big Barn storage would give us a 20x25 unit at a discounted rate of \$200/month. The vault at the museum was discussed as a possible option. Kris to contact Rich Pyper to make arrangements to get the backdrop moved back to the Museum.
  - b. Vault clean-up is in progress. Foam board photos will be photographed and Kris will contact Ruth Ann Montgomery to see if she has any information on the photos.

- c. Two Lights for Tomorrow – Art will write an article for the event; two lights will be placed in the front NE window; Kris wants to have two “arc” lights placed at the windmill facing straight up to the sky; Donna and Berta will contact the Care Closet to see if they’d like to be the recipient of a food drive, do they have a wish list, and if there are any special considerations.
- d. Pump project update – Art has completed the plaque info. Art and Dan have not met to set up a budget, which is due April 1, 2025.
- e. The Genealogy group still has not heard from the Boy Scouts. Suggestions were made to reach out to the Girl Scouts and the local 4-H club.

X. **New Business**

- a. WHS Annual Report was filed by Kris and she received copies of old reports that we do not have.
- b. The PayPal process was started with the following fees to be charged: 1.99% of dollar amount and \$.49 per transaction – due to our non-profit status. We will receive 2-3 card readers and will have access to Venmo and Apple Pay.
- c. The Clio.com – The site was discussed again, reiterating that we would have to enter the data (photos and historical narrative) for any locations we want to put on the site. Dan suggested starting with the seven locations on the National Register.
- d. Advocacy Day – slated for 3-19-2025, Kris to attend.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm.  
Submitted by Judy Nichols, Secretary

The next board meeting is March 26, 2025 at 5:30 pm – Historic Baker Building