

Evansville Grove Society, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2025
5:30pm
Historic Baker Building

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:37pm by Kris Thome
- II. Members present: Dan Stephans, Marcia Kremer, Kris Thome, Arthur McEvoy
Leah Hurtley, Jill Whitmore-Bradley
- III. Motion to approve July 15, 2025 minutes was made by Art. Seconded by Dan. Motion passed.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report** –
Bank account balances as of August 19, 2025 are: Checking \$8,748.44 -- MM \$8,219.37 -
- Auto Pay (formerly PayPal) account \$123.97 -- CD \$10,744.46.
- V. **Correspondence / Donations**
 - a. **Rock County Historical Society (RCHS) Annual Payment Update** – The county has issued a new administrative policy that requires non-profit agencies apply for money similarly to grant applications. The application and approval criteria are quite stringent.
 - b. **Donations**–
 - i. The Evansville Fire Department contacted Dan about donating a 1966 era storm siren. Dan and Leah will determine if the siren is appropriate for the Grove Society's collection.
 - ii. Marcia Kremer's donation of several Evansville business-related promotional items was approved.
 - iii. Dean & Sharon Sarow's donation of an Evansville Seminary postcard and Baker Mfg. mechanical pencil were approved.
- VI. **Membership Committee Report** – Deferred
- VII. **Old Business**
 - a. **Hail Damage** – Dan has been working with Total Exteriors to petition State Farm for additional money to repair the Baker Building roof with the correct materials. To date, he has not received a response from them. A brief discussion was held about asking volunteers with roofing experience to replace the cabin roof. Leah offered to contact people she knows to see if there is interest in helping with this task.
 - b. **ECP Lease Renewal** – Jim Brooks with ECP is requesting to change his lease with EGS to a storage only lease. He no longer wants to lease the office space, only the space currently used in the basement. He is offering to pay \$75/month plus internet service which ECP has provided for years. He will donate the wooden cabinet on the East wall. He states the conference table is the property of the Grove Society. The rolltop desk is the property of Heidi Carvin who brought it to the building in 2010. Motion to approve Jim's request to modify the lease per the terms described above was made by Kris. Second by Art. Motion passed. Kris will notify Jim of the board's approval and will work with Wally Shannon's office to revise the lease. Kris will also contact the Chamber of Commerce about leasing the office space in the future.

- c. **EGS Telephone & Internet** – Based on the decision to have ECP continue providing internet service for the Baker Building, Kris will proceed with a phone-only plan with US Cellular.
- d. **Pump Project Report** – The board agreed to defer the pump project to Spring 2026.
- e. **Historic Home Tour** – May 16th or 17th, 2026 is the tentative date for the historic home tour. Kris will notify Chris Eager of the date so that he may confirm that this works for the homeowners. Leah proposed approaching Seth and Ashley Schulz about including their home in the tour. She will be responsible for contacting them.
- f. **Antes Cabin Re-paint** – Progress continues.
- g. **Theodore Robinson Presentation – Badger Talks – October 11, 2025** – PBS Wisconsin has asked to film the presentation. Art is working with them to finalize set up at Creekside.
- h. **History in the Park (HITP) Planning**
 - The purchase of new HITP road signs in the amount of \$190.40 was approved via email on August 12, 2025.
 - Dan initiated a contract with Life Echo Media to record his presentation. This was done prior to notification that an anonymous donor would pay the \$1,000 cost with a grant from the CFSW. With this change in circumstances, the contract will be between EGS and Life Echo Media. Kris and Dan will work together to finalize the revised contract.
 - Ardy Bros BBQ will cater the event. Art and Mark Sendelbach will grill the brats and hot dogs as is our custom.
 - Marcia is working on Pruden-related postcards to have at the event.

VIII. **New Business**

- a. **Annual Meeting – October 23, 2025 @ Creekside Place** – Kris reserved Creekside Place for the annual meeting. Set up is the same as last year. Award recipients TBD.
- b. **7th Board Member** – a 7th board member is needed to bring us in accordance with the by-laws. Karen Frey was asked, but declined. Leah knows someone who may be a good candidate. She will connect with that person to see if there is interest in joining the board.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Next meeting: September 16, 2025 @ 5:30pm – Historic Baker Building