Evansville Grove Society, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2026
5:30pm
Historic Baker Building

I. Meeting called to order at 5:32pm by Kris Thome

II. Members present: Dan Stephans, Marcia Kremer, Kris Thome, Arthur McEvoy, Leah Hurtley, Chris Eager (via FaceTime) Absent: Jill Whitmore-Bradley

III. Motion to approve January 20, 2026 minutes was made by Art. Seconded by Chris. Motion passed.

IV. **Treasurer's Report** –

a. Account balances: Checking $7,989.19; MM $39,979.94; Stripe (electronic payments) $302.09; CD $10,911.56. Marcia reports we received checks from the Rock County Historical Society for $676.40 and the Community Foundation of Southern WI for $789.00 (annual payment from endowment created by Prent Eager).

V. **Correspondence / Donations**

a. **Donations–**
   i. **Sharon Franklin –** medication bottles from Krebs Pharmacy & Willis Drugstore.
   ii. **Leah Hurtley & Family –** framed picture of 1911-1912 Evansville Boys Basketball team – donated in honor of Linda Everson.

VI. **Membership Committee –** No Report

VII. **New Business**

a. **Ice Age Trail Group –** A group of ~50 hikers will be in Evansville on April 25th walking the Ice Age Trail, which passes by the Historic Baker Building. We will consider opening the museum that day.

b. **WHS Grant Opportunity -** WHS has a $700 mini-grant available. Art will submit an application for money to repair the display cabinet.

c. **Ice Age Trail Alliance Kiosks –** IATA is looking for locations to place informational kiosks in Evansville. Colette Spranger mentioned our Baker Building location to help improve foot traffic in the museum. This was discussed by the Board and approved with the recommendation to place the kiosk next to The Little Library. Kris will follow up with Colette.

VIII. **Old Business**

a. Bucky! Documentary Watch Party – Preparations for the party are finalized. We will present Ruth Ann Montgomery with a Lifetime Membership at the event.

b. Litewire Internet Service - We are unable to assume ECP's contract with Litewire at a rate of $49.95/month. The new, uncontracted rate is $54.95/month.

c. ECP Furniture Disposal – The furniture left by Jim Brooks will be donated or sold. Kris will contact Aware to see if they can use any of the pieces.

d. Eager Free Public Library (EFPL) July 4th Collaboration –
-UW-Madison Professor John Hall (via Badger Talks) is scheduled to present "Irregular Warfare during the American Revolution" at EFPL on June 25th at 6pm.
-Kris presented two quotes for 250 antique brass coins to be minted with the winning design from the 250th anniversary contest. Osborne Coin - $1,125 (possibly more depending on work by their graphic designers) and Metalcraft Mint $2,662.50. More discussion about how the coins will be distributed needs to occur before the Board will commit to funding this project.

e. History in the Park 2026 – Leah Hurtley declined the opportunity to present on Maple Hill Cemetery at HITP 2026. Other ideas were discussed including The Blackhawk War either by Dan Stephans or Professor John Hall (Badger Talks). Leah suggested doing something in conjunction with the new historical banners recently posted downtown. She will take the lead to determine if there is anyone interested in presenting on this topic.

f. Declaration of Independence – July 4th – No Report.

g. **Historic Home Tour 2026 –** Rescheduled to September 19, 2026 to include Pat Carr's house on Church Street. Maria Jakubowski, John & Kim Otto, and Wally Shannon are confirmed for the new date. We are still looking for a 5th home for the tour. Chris will contact Jim Bates for his home at 51 N. First Street. Evansville Community Theatre is willing to partner with us to have actors portray residents from a few of the homes during the tour.
h. **Gaylord Archival –** Kris spent $208.63 of the approved $250 budget to purchase more preservation materials for the museum.

***Other announcements:**
-EGS now has a $1,000 corporate credit card through Lake Ridge Bank. Kris and Marcia have been issued cards to use for on-line purchases.

-A credit account has been established at Nelson-Young Lumber. Dan, Kris, Marcia & Art are approved to make purchases on behalf of EGS. Ace Hardware Evansville (Stoughton Lumber) has not responded to our request for a credit account.

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm.

Next meeting: March 17, 2026 @ 5:30pm – Historic Baker Building