

Evansville Grove Society, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2026
5:30pm
Historic Baker Building

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:33pm by Kris Thome
- II. Members present: Dan Stephans, Marcia Kremer, Kris Thome, Arthur McEvoy
Absent: Leah Hurtley, Chris Eager
- III. Motion to approve February 19, 2026 minutes was made by Dan. Seconded by Art. Motion passed.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report –**
 - a. **Account balances:** Checking \$8,485.69; MM \$40,004.48; Stripe (electronic payments) \$302.09; CD \$10,911.56.
 - b. **Piggly Wiggly Donation** - We received a check from Piggly Wiggly for \$668.60 from their “round up” program. At some point in the past, Marcia asked to have the Grove Society included in the program. A big thanks to Marcia for making this happen.
 - c. **CD Renewal** – our CD at LakeRidge Bank matures on April 20th. Marcia will bring renewal rate information to the April meeting to determine if we renew or not.
 - d. **2025 Tax Filing** – the Grove Society's 2025 federal taxes have been filed.
- V. **Correspondence / Donations**
 - a. Jill Whitmore-Bradley resigned from the Grove Society board effective March 6, 2026.
 - b. **Gayle Puhl** – donated photographs of Evansville homes taken during the 1990's.
 - c. **Eva Schnell Family** – donated an envelope containing Eva's research notes and articles written for the Janesville Gazette.
- VI. **Membership Committee** – No Report
- VII. **New Business**
 - a. **WHS Annual Report** – The Grove Society's annual report has been filed with the Wisconsin Historical Society.
 - b. **2026 Building Repairs** - The following building repairs/maintenance were identified for possible completion this summer: refinish front doors, replace back door, new window treatments to reduce light and improve heating/cooling of the building, tuckpointing, and removal of black mildew on the west side of the building. Kris will solicit bids for discussion at the April meeting. Kris will finish painting the cabin and will repaint the front step railing and exterior lights. Dan will address the rotting wood around the front door frame. The Baker pump project was also discussed. Kris and Art will obtain updated quotes for the concrete and bronze plaques.
- VIII. **Old Business**
 - a. **Bucky! Documentary Watch Party** – 65 people attended the Bucky! watch party. We raised \$215 in cash donations and \$30 from postcard sales. The party was a huge success. Bucky's presence at the event was a big hit, especially with the kids in attendance.
 - b. **ECP Furniture Disposal** – Aware did not want any of our furniture. Marcia purchased the tall file cabinet, large chair, and table. Kris purchased the small task chair. We will keep the desk and small shelf for now.
 - c. **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.
 - Commemorative Coin Contest** – Timeline: April 1st begin promoting the contest, May 1st deadline to submit entries. Around May 8th judging panel picks a winner. May 15th winner announced. Osborne Coin is the company we are working with the mint the coin. Kris requested a budget of \$1,500 for the project. Art made a motion to approve. Seconded by Dan. Motion passed. Coin distribution details to be discussed at a later meeting.

- d. History in the Park 2026** – Different speakers were again discussed. Everyone agreed that we should continue pursuing a presentation about the new historical flags placed downtown. Kris will approach Abbey Barnes about presenting on the flags.
- e. Declaration of Independence – July 4th** – No Report.
- f. Historic Home Tour 2026 Update** – Jim Bates at 51 N. 1st Street declined our request to participate, as did the Meredith Funeral Home on Main Street. Marcia and Kris approached homeowners on Main and First streets without success. We will continue looking for a 5th home.
- g. Total Exteriors Final Payment** – Per Dan, the remaining exterior work is not yet fully complete. Payment will continue to be held until the work is completed to our satisfaction.
- h. Ice Age Trail Alliance Kiosks** – After reviewing the size of the proposed kiosk, we believe it would be better suited at the corner of Antes Drive and the entrance to the park (near the Antes Cabin) – set at a 45-degree angle. Recommendation will be passed onto Colette Spranger and the others involved with the kiosk project.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next meeting: April 21, 2026 @ 5:30pm – Historic Baker Building