

Evansville Grove Society, Inc.
Board Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2026
5:30pm
Historic Baker Building

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:28pm by Kris Thome
- II. Members present: Dan Stephans, Marcia Kremer, Kris Thome, Arthur McEvoy, Chris Eager (via FaceTime) Absent: Leah Hurtley
- III. Motion to approve March 17, 2026 minutes was made by Dan. Seconded by Marcia. Motion passed.
- IV. **Treasurer's Report –**
 - a. **Q1 2026 Financial Statements** – Kris presented Q1 financial statements. Net income will remain negative for much of the year due to the large payment made to Total Exteriors for hail damage repairs.
Account balances: Checking \$8,181.75; MM \$40,032.54; Stripe (electronic payments) \$302.09; CD \$11,023.55.
 - b. **CD Renewal** – After considerable discussion, Kris made a motion to renew the existing CD in the amount of \$11,023.55 for 13 months at 3.02%. Seconded by Dan. Chris abstained from voting due to his relationship with LakeRidge Bank. Motion passed. We will revisit future investments after 2026 building improvements are complete.
 - c. **Kristi Jones Donation** – We received \$501.40 from Kristi's employer's donation fund. Kristi is the mother of Zach Jones, who completed his senior project with us in 2024.
- V. **Correspondence / Donations**
 - a. **Nancy Larson Alexander, Plano, TX** – Sterling silver spoon with Evansville, Wis. Engraved in the bowl of the spoon.
- VI. **Membership Committee** – No Report
- VII. **New Business**
 - a. **Proposed Board Member** – Norman Barker was nominated to fill the vacancy created by Jill Whitmore-Bradley's resignation. Dan made a motion to approve Norman's candidacy for the remainder of the current year with a full term to be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting in October, 2026. Seconded by Chris. Motion passed.
 - b. **Summer Docent Schedule** – Kris briefly mentioned preparing the docent schedule for the upcoming season. Kris is contacting members who indicated they wanted to volunteer for this work. Board members are asked to help cover shifts over the summer.
 - c. **Tourism Council Member** – The Grove Society will replace the now defunct ECP on the Tourism Commission. Kris is the identified representative however; all board members are welcome to attend.
 - d. **2026 Building Repairs**
 - i. **Window Treatments – Budget Blinds** – We have a quote of \$5,076.00 for 11 cellular blinds to cover all windows in the museum except the transom window over the front door. Motion to approve this amount for blinds was made by Dan. Seconded by Art. Motion passed.
 - ii. **Back Door Replacement – Nelson-Young Lumber (NYL)** – We have a quote from NYL for \$348.50 to replace the damaged back door. Motion to approve this amount for the door was made by Kris. Seconded by Art. Motion passed.
 - iii. **Front Door Refinish** – The board approved spending \$840.00 via email on April 2, 2026 to have the front doors refinished by Scott Brummond. The doors are currently at Scott's workshop and should be reinstalled in 3-4 weeks.
 - iv. **Name on the Front Door Transom** – Kris shared a picture of the front transom window with "Evansville Grove Society, Inc." painted on it. John Decker previously confirmed that the name was on the window and never redone after the window was damaged by

a rock. Kris recommends that we have our name and address repainted on the window. She will seek bids for this work.

- v. **Warming House / Theodore Robinson Home** – The idea of the Grove Society supporting restoration of the warming house was discussed. Dan will check with the City about Wisconsin Historical Society required mitigation related to the removal of the swimming pool. Acquiring Theodore Robinson's home for the site of a dedicated museum was discussed. No action items were identified.

VIII. **Old Business**

- a. **Display Case – Glass Repair** – The board approved spending \$200.00 via email on March 19, 2026 to have the glass repaired in the display case.
- b. **Ice Age Trail Walk – April 25th** – We will not open the museum on April 25th because the front doors are barricaded blocking the emergency exit.
- c. **Eager Free Public Library (EFPL) July 4th Collaboration:**
 - Commemorative Coin Contest** – Entries are due May 1st. Coin distribution was proposed as follows:
Winner – 5 Coins
Eager Free Public Library – 2 Coins
Grove Society – 3 Coins to keep at the museum
Grove Society Members - ~50 households currently
Declaration of Independence Readers – TBD
Remaining coins will be distributed via a drawing to be held on or around July 4th
- d. **Declaration of Independence – July 4th** - Marsha Dobbs is looking for 10-15 people to recite the D of I on July 4th. Evansville Community Theatre will provide audio equipment for us to use. Attempts have been made to contact the July 4th organizing committee to be included in the day's lineup. To date, no one has responded. Dan will speak to Greg Ardisson on our behalf.
- e. **History in the Park 2026** – Abbey Barnes has agreed to be the presenter for HITP 2026.
- f. **Historic Home Tour 2026 Tour – September 19, 2026** – Norman Barker at 112 Grove Street is the 5th home on the tour. A motion to approve a \$100 stipend for Jim Richter to design artwork for advertisements was made by Kris. Seconded by Marcia. Motion passed.
- g. **WHS 2026 Mini Grant** – Our initial idea to request funds to replace the glass in the new display case does not meet submission criteria. Kris proposed submitting an application to purchase a vacuum cleaner with HEPA filtration for the museum. Art will write the grant. Deadline is May 15th.
- h. **Total Exteriors Final Payment** – Dan reviewed the repairs made and is satisfied that the work is completed as best it can be without causing new and different problems for the building. Final \$2,000 payment is approved.
- i. **Ace Hardware Account** – We now have a charge account with Ace Hardware to purchase supplies for building maintenance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Next meeting: May 19, 2026 @ 5:30pm – Historic Baker Building