



SACG Monthly Meeting

Nov. 20, 2023

Library, lower level

Welcome – President Oldakowski kicked off the meeting at 6:05 PM. She welcomed 23 members present, of which eight came as a result of the Membership Committee’s recent open house.

Secretary Report – Jill Hidingier asked if there were any changes to October minutes. Nancy Thorkildson accepted the minutes as written. All Ayes.

Treasurer Report – Jay Herman provided an update to balances in the Regular Checking account of \$14,161.67, Savings/Memorial Account \$4,808.04, 12-month C.D. \$10,265.05 and Mural Restoration account \$9,918.05. Expenses accounted for and income reported through Nov. 20, 2023. Tim Peters made a motion to approve Jay’s report. All Ayes.

Endowment Report -President Deb reported on the balance of the endowment funds in Shelbie Williams’ absence.

Committee Reports

Economic Development – Jill Hidingier reported on the Nov. 6th meeting. The Sip & Shop event scheduled for Nov. 16th was discussed for final preparations. Jean Fish mentioned the food pantry would be open and it could be beneficial for people to know about it. A food donation box was placed outside of Roy’s to collect canned goods for the pantry. SACG thanks Judy Mumm for her help fulfilling this need in our community. We hope you enjoy your retirement.

We touched on the bridge ceremony also scheduled for Nov. 16th. Jim Hidingier is producing a video of the ceremony that will be ready by the end of the year.

Last summer several of us participated in ISU’s Rural Housing Study Assessment (RHSA). We are pleased to share that we have achieved many goals that we established as part of that study. One goal we established during the RHSA calls for a Town Hall meeting. We will work with the newly elected mayor, Phil Travis in possibly scheduling a meeting in the spring. Lastly, we were able to take part in the RHSA due to a grant. The funds associated with the award will be applied to the engineering costs for the new development.

We spent some time discussing future projects for our committee as well as incorporating a business retention plan, and action items for January 2024.

Decorating Committee – Sue Herman asked for volunteers to decorate the Christmas tree, bridge, and pavilion. Sue asked for folks to bring ladders and extension cords on Saturday, Nov. 25th at 1:00 pm in City Park.

Park Committee – Jim Hidingier offered a synopsis of what his committee accomplished this year. Jim, Nancy Thorkildson and Jessica Walker (Hometown Pride) collaborated to submit a grant request to the Benton County Community Foundation (BCCF) for a picnic table, concrete pad, shade structure and artwork on the City Park bathroom wall. We hope to hear from BCCF in December. Tim Peters reminded us about the importance of having a member continue to serve on the BCCF.

Horticulture Committee –Tricia Sheldon shared with our new members what her committee is responsible for throughout the year. Mayor Lonnie had sent a thank you note to the committee for their efforts in caring for the plants, flowers and rock garden this year, especially in preparation for the IEDA downtown walk around and the bridge opening ceremony.

Membership Committee – Nancy Thorkildson announced we gained nine new members due to the Open House. Due to its success, this committee will host these events annually to gain new members.

2024 Membership dues are still the same, \$10 individual or \$15 per family. Due to our newest members joining SACG in October, a decision was made that their dues paid will go toward 2024. Tim Peters made a motion to handle their dues this way, Kelsey Fish seconded. All Ayes.

Old Business

Delta Dental Foundation – Nancy Thorkildson submitted a grant request in hopes of using it to supply a water fountain and installation in Memorial Park.

Bike Rack – Nancy Thorkildson said this is now in place in front of Pearl Street Social Club.

Fine Arts Committee – Jay Herman read a Thank You note for SACG’s donation.

New Business

Annual Audit – Nancy Thorkildson asked for another member to assist with this. Meri Mott volunteered to work on this with Nancy.

Officer and Board Elections - Jim Hidingier and Tim Peters will be new to the board in 2024, replacing Jean Fish and Debi Reynolds.

Board of Directors – will meet sometime in January. Date to be announced.

Holiday Party for SACG members – Jean Fish made arrangements with Local Edition for hosting our party on December 11th. Kelsey Fish will create an invitation for Jill Hidingier to email out to membership.

Next Meeting – Tricia Sheldon brought to our attention that the caucus will be held on January 15th, presenting a conflict with our meeting date. Deb made a motion to move our meeting to January 22nd. All Ayes.

Adjourn - At 7:00 PM, Tricia Sheldon motioned to adjourn, Jill Hidingger seconded. All Ayes.