

WESTMENN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Saturday, April 13, 2019
10:00-12:00
R. M. of Morris Council Chambers
Morris, Manitoba

Present: Lawrence Klippenstein (chair), John Giesbrecht, Peter Priess, Sean Goerzen, Andrew Brown, Albert Falk, Jake Peters, George Wall (guest), Ralph Groening (guest), Eleanor Chornoboy
Regrets: Pam Klassen Dueck, Graham Schellenberg

1. Call meeting to order The chair
2. Review of the January 26, 2019 meeting.
 - a. Several changes were recommended.
 - i. In #8, the location Spannau should read Sparrau.
 - ii. It was noted that the Scratching River is covered in the East Reserve atlas.
 - iii. New Hope should read Neu Hoffnung. The district name is historically Neu Hoffnung and the term New Hope was used when the schools consolidated.
 - iv. #14 should read P. Priess offered information on original ..., rather than P. Priess offered an original.... Peter also noted that the English translation is no longer available at MHA.
3. Motion: John Giesbrech/Jake Peters that the minutes be accepted as amended. Carried.
4. Agenda was reviewed and accepted.
5. Lawrence welcomed our guest, Ralph Groening and expressed appreciation for the use of the Council Chambers.
6. Report from MMHS including AGM
 - a. Eleanor briefly reported that the reports, including the budget will be available on the MMHS website. It should be noted that both Preservations and Heritage Posting are welcoming articles from WestMenn for inclusion in their publications. A small committee has agreed to re-imagine the the Plett Foundation Essay Contest in order to expand the project beyond essays to potentially include visual work such as film, drama, graphic novels and more.

7. Report & discussion on the WR atlas report Albert Falk
 - a. Albert Falk reported that one committee member, Alex Tiessen is moving to Saskatchewan, so will no longer be working on the project.
 - b. Graham Schellenberg has expressed interest in working and sourcing out software .
 - c. Will be firming up the committee to determine who will take on what pieces of the work
 - d. Lawrence Klippenstein expressed that the project was rather ambitious. Andrew Brown assured him that the participants on the committee are both ambitious and have the time to commit to and complete the project.
 - e. Sean Goerzen asked what the WestMenn committee needed in terms of reports from the Atlas committee.
 - f. Peter Priess suggested that it would suffice for the committee to give reports at the WestMenn meetings. The meeting agreed to this.
 - g. Jake Peters suggested that the committee might want to consult with Bruce Wiebe and Henry Unger for information from the west part of the region.
8. Report & discussion on Altbergthal project. In Graham Schellenberg's absence, Lawrence Klippenstein reported that the Altbergthal committee will meet June 22, 2019. The work is currently under the direction of five people. They have begun interviews with citizens and the project will be done by including essays. Lawrence Klippenstein will present the first of the essays.
9. Post Road Trail
 - a. Gary Dyck, of MHV had inquired about a map so that he could ride the Post Road trail by bike. This sparked an discussion on a bike tour of the trail.
 - b. Andrew Brown and Albert Falk will work on setting up a bike tour.
10. Funding requests from organizations
 - a. Lawrence Klippenstein circulated a list of Manitoba Historical Groups and Persons MMHS Hopes to Keep in Touch with in the West Reserve. He indicated that in his discussions with the groups, they cited a lack of funding as an issue for them. Lawrence particularly listed
 - i. Altona and District Archives
 - ii. Winkler Historical Society
 - iii. Mennonite Post Road Memorial Trail Development
 - iv. Stella Thiessen – a private museum in Horndean
 - b. The question was asked where we would get money to support these organizations. Discussion suggested that if any organization wanted

funding, we would need information including their budgets and perhaps we could support them in ways other than through funding. It was noted that WestMenn's current projects should be prioritized in terms of fiscal commitments.

- c. A question was raised as to how agencies get money from MMHS. Lawrence indicated that the new system was to be in contact with groups currently not connected with MMHS.

11. Review of HP #92

- a. A discussion on the lay out and content of HP indicated satisfaction with HP.

12. It was noted that in September, there will be a board election.

13. Next meeting: May 11, 2019 at Burke's Roadside Inn 10:00 – 12:00

14. Meeting adjourned at 12:05

George Wall told the meeting that WestMenn is an excellent organization. While he is very interested in the discussions and the work, he will decline to be a member. Clearly, if George is always welcome to join us.