

**MINUTES OF OTSEGO HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

In attendance: Chris Wilson, John Waldron, Gail Anderson, Kathy Beaudry, Toni Seroshek, and Councilman Corey Tanner. Absent: Cara Husek.

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

Agenda item added – photos at the Bank of Elk River in Otsego; Kathy talked with someone at the bank to see where the city photos are that used to hang in the bank. That bank person thinks they are in the basement but will find out and get back to Kathy.

Minutes reviewed. St. Cloud was misspelled. Otherwise minutes were approved. (Gail moved and John seconded that motion.)

The Jacquie Rognli article/interview was reviewed. Gail had sent out the most recent version this evening. We discussed adding a 'hook' or headline to beginning of article. Gail will also check to see if Jacquie would like to read it first. It will then be submitted with a picture of Jacquie to Tami for publication sometime in the Otsego View.

It was noted that the upcoming Otsego View deadlines are April 20<sup>th</sup> for the summer edition and July 20<sup>th</sup> for the fall edition.

Re photo organization, John is concerned about storage, back up, usage of photos. Toni is most concerned about organization of photos in one place and then back that up and then decide on usage. John will bring a plan or proposal for this photo project to our April meeting.

Tami Loff will attend our April meeting to discuss how we might make some of our materials available through links on the city website or whatever is recommended.

John and Chris discussed the barn/school photography project. Probably waiting for better weather. Toni had scanned and copied the Elaine Norin/Norm Schwanbeck property history project. They were given copies and shown the large map that Elaine and Norman used to find and identify properties. (A copy of this project should also go to Cara for the century home project she is working

on.) Kathy noted that several of these properties are already gone; she made a list for Chris and John. Kathy also suggested leaving a note or card when a photograph is taken to acknowledge the photo and maybe eliciting a history or story. This last suggestion came from a discussion re whether to ask permission to take a photo or not.

Toni also gave them a copy of the transcript of Robert Holt's driving tour of Otsego farms that was among the cassette tapes digitized.

All the cassettes have been transferred or digitized. These are interviews done several years ago by previous OHPC commissioners. They are saved as both mp3 and wav files. They are on the office computer desktop and on a thumb drive. Not all the tapes have been transcribed unfortunately. The transcriptions that were done were all scanned as searchable pdfs and are also on the office computer and the same thumb drive as the audio files.

'Life in the Brick House' and 'The Holt Diary' have also been scanned as searchable pdfs. Unfortunately, the photos in those books are not good quality. However most the photos were found and scanned in to accompany the books.

Cara's projects were tabled as she was not in attendance.

Corey received the information from the city attorney re permission forms or releases for future interviews. We reviewed this and will use these two forms for all future interviews.

We discussed future interviews. There is a list in tonight's agenda. Chris is interested in talking with Kevin Lefebvre. Gail will try to contact Mark Daleiden, Wright County Commissioner, to interview his mother who was a Pouliot.

Either Corey or Jessica will find their camcorder so we can transfer the "Heritage Day 1999" to DVD. They will let us know.

Back up storage was discussed earlier. Toni talked with our city IT man, Rob, who agreed with using a portable hard drive as back up for our computer. He also said that the city is upgrading some of their computers and we should be able to get one of the used machines for our use. It will not be new but will be newer than the one we use now.

It was noted that the annual SHPO conference will be in Stillwater on Sept. 16-18. It is not known yet when the Otsego Festival is but usually, they overlap.

John designed and printed bookmarks to place in "Images of America – Otsego", Chris's book, to correct an error re the Pride of Otsego barn.

John also likes to read newspaper.com for old Otsego news and brought an article about plans for a dam near Otsego in Feb 1906. He also found a picture of the 'new' bridge over the Mississippi River at Parrish.

Corey recommended that we photograph the Cty Rd 39 and Parrish intersection before it becomes a roundabout.

The next meeting will be March 10<sup>th</sup>. The request for the agenda for that meeting should be sent to Chris Wilson as Toni and Gail will not be in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toni Seroshek