

**CITY OF SALEM  
HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Monday, July 17, 2023  
5:00 P.M.  
Salem Area Historical Museum**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Historical Commission met on Monday, July 17, 2023 at the Salem Area Historical Museum. Luke Purcell called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the presence of commission members Diane Eller, Mark Larimer, Frank Brinkerhoff, Myron Lloyd, Megan Holler, Jim Koehler and recording Secretary Cindy Eller.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mark Larimer made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2023 meeting. Megan Holler noted a correction that needed to be made to the minutes that should read Mark Larimer seconded the motion to approve the minutes instead of Megan Holler. Frank Brinkerhoff made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction. Diane Eller seconded the motion. All members present were in favor and the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The treasurer's report for June 2023 was presented for review.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Diane Eller reported that she was contacted by Becky Beasley Juelff that she had some booklets from WCP – Salem Gravure that she would like to donate to the Historical Commission. It was the consensus of the members to accept the donation.

Diane Eller told the Commission that Michelle Barbe is planning a sidewalk chalk competition for Saturday, Aug 12, and was wondering if the Historical would want to coordinate with this and have something at the museum that day, possibly several people that would talk about how Salem use to be. After discussion, Diane Eller said she would let Michelle know that we will plan something.

Luke Purcell said that Melanie Johnson had prepared a banner, 30 ft long and 3-4 feet high, with Historical events on it for the Bicentennial Celebration and is offering it to the Historical Commission to display. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to take

possession of it and display it possibly on Sweney corner or the Court House during Little Egypt Festival.

Luke Purcell also stated he was contacted by Adam Smith to see if the Historical Commission would to put items on display at the exhibit hall during the Marion County Fair. Diane Eller suggested displaying the banner from Melanie Johnson. Luke noted he would put a few things together for display.

### **BUSINESS**

Diane Eller spoke with Chuck Lear to see if he would be interested in serving on the Historical Commission and he responded that he would be. Mayor Farley has a put request out to the public for interest but has had no response. Diane stated she would ask Chuck to contact the Mayor.

Luke Purcell stated that the Community Center has been reserved for the Tales from East Lawn on October 6 and 7. Luke stated he was exploring ideas about using wagons to accommodate more people but has spoke with Little Egypt Golf Cars and golf cars are available. It was noted that the list of characters is set but still on in need of actors. Luke said he would contact Grant Purcell with the City of Salem with the list of names so they can begin locating the graves.

### **COMMISSION MEMBER'S REPORT**

Frank Brinkerhoff thanked everyone that participated in the Bicentennial Celebration. Also, he would like to donate his father's correspondence with the University of IL to them but needs help contacting them. Luke stated he would be willing to help.

Jim Koehler stated he would like to see plans for a Bryan Festival to be held in Salem. Koehler said they would need to come up with a date, start off small and grow each year. He also noted that he will be contacting schools to set up tours of the Museum and the Bryan Home.

The next Historical Commission meeting will be Monday, August 21, 2023.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

*Frank Brinkerhoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.*

Recording Secretary  
Cindy Eller

**August 7, 2023**

**Keli Barrow**  
**Director of Finance**