

Commission on Archives and History

September 12, 2017

Minutes

Attending: David Werner, Thelma Boeder, Marybeth Nelson, Kathy Spence Johnson. Hilda Parks and Randy Koppen by Conference call.

David W. opened the meeting with devotions from "The Upper Room", Psalms 34, The Lord's messenger protects those who honor God.

We had a brief time of sharing.

The minutes of the May 23rd meeting were accepted as written.

We discussed preparing quarterly articles for the MN Connect. For Fall Kathy and Thelma will write about the GCAH Missionary Scrapbook transcription project.

We thought about ideas a for a winter article, perhaps the 50th anniversary of the 1968 merger.

David Laechel had submitted a report of his visit to County Line Cemetery. Kathy also had an update of the work done there.

We discussed how we might help churches create Cemetery Associations to help keep up their cemeteries. This is really the trustees work. There are processes in place to help churches with this.

We talked about how we can help church collect and keep their history. Mary, Marybeth and Thelma are signed up to participate in the Indiana Conference course for Church Historians. They will report back as they progress through the materials.

We reviewed the Historic Sites and our last visits to them. Kathy was in Red Wing in July; Thelma was at the Finnish Monument, Jacob Fahlstroms Grave.

Thelma will check with Steve about the West Side Church taking ownership of the Finnish Site property.

Kathy has completed the application to register Portland Prairie Church with GCAH. David signed the application, as did the Bishop and the Conference Secretary. This will go in the mail today. Kathy will contact Deb Wray about the plaques presentation and installation.

We are meeting with Keith Shew today to present the Lake Koronis Plaque.

David reported that he has heard back from Crystal Pingel, PCAM, Associate Manager for First Service Residential (952-277-2703) about adding the plaque to the parking ramp in St. Paul. The Board of Directors denied the request because they will be doing construction there through next year. We can ask them again next year.

David reported on the Red Rock meeting of the Bishop, Cindy Gregorson, the CAH, the Committee on Native American Ministry and Newport UMC. All these groups agreed to move forward with repatriating the Red Rock.

Kathy reported that Past Perfect has been working well. She just found out how to find the user statistics. She does plan to purchase the Virtual Exhibit in January.

We discussed ways to mark the merger of 1968. Look for ways the former EUB and Methodists groups influence and impact the UMC today.

Thelma reported that she has been traveling and has just started back at her project. She is also working on Centennial UMC's archive.

Randy reported that he has sent 9 letters of congratulations to churches celebrating numerous anniversaries. David asked him to add Forest Hill 50th anniversary December 10th and Red Rock Camp Associations 160th anniversary in June 2018.

Kathy reported on the NCJCAH, July 2017, report attached.

We discussed places and themes for the NCHCAJ 2019 here in Minnesota. Ideas included EUB history at Middle Creek, Dakota History in SW MN, New Ulm.

Thelma suggested she do a lecture of the history of the churches in the area we choose based on her project. Kathy suggested we tell the story of the Red Rock, its origins, its Methodist connections and the process of repatriation.

UMHSMN is dormant. Kathy updated their status with Secretary of State for this year.

We discussed small local groups with UM history that have events during the year. Examples, Old Prairieville Cemetery at Memorial Day, Palmyra Swedish ME during June. We will try to collect information about these to share.

Next meeting November 14th, following meeting February 6th.