

Dane County Historical Society: February 19, 2024

Present: John Decker, Barbara Furstenberg, Paul Hessman, Gini Nichols, Peter Williams. Rick Bernstein, Executive Director. Excused: Jane Licht. Absent: Mike Flaherty, Jerry Remy.

John Decker called the meeting to order at 1:50 PM.

Rick Bernstein announced that Rich Eggleston has resigned from the board for health reasons.

Minutes. **Motion to approve the January minutes by Peter Williams, seconded by Gini Nichols. Motion passed.**

President's report.

- John reported that the Dane County Department of Planning and Development (DCDPD) has provided letters of support for the restrictive covenant exhibition. Rick pointed out that this project has received good support from county agencies. DCDPD has been mapping covenant areas, but does not have records prior to 1937.
- Ben Hobbins has donated \$450 toward the Civil War plaque restoration project.
- John was asked to be the keynote speaker at the Memorial Day ceremony at Forest Hills Cemetery.

Financial Report.

- Paul Hessman reported that the Baird account summary shows \$71,752.65 as of January 31, 2024.
- The Summit Credit Union accounts as of February 18, 2024, held \$11,910.72 in savings; \$3,398.13 in checking; and \$1,379.37 in the secondary savings account.
- Paul explained that it has been inconvenient for Rick to submit hourly pay invoices and he would prefer a monthly salary. Paul has determined an average salary amount that could be paid monthly. **Paul moved to pay the Executive Director monthly, based on a reasonable average estimate, with periodic adjustments as necessary. Barbara Furstenberg seconded the motion, which passed.**

Archives Report. Barbara reported that the family of Henry Kanazawa, an architect active in Madison from the 1960's to the 2010's, has offered a collection of drawings, photographs, newspaper clippings, correspondence and slides from his career. Peter asked about the rationale for collecting these papers, in light of the large number of architectural firms in the city, suggesting that it might be a more appropriate project for the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation. Barbara pointed out that Mr. Kanazawa had received design awards from the Wisconsin AIA and that he had been involved in projects that have contributed to the Madison landscape. Moreover, his work extended throughout Dane County, the state of Wisconsin, and adjacent midwestern states. She has consulted with the Madison Trust for Historic Preservation, which has expressed interest in broadening awareness of Mr. Kanazawa's accomplishments.

Annual Meeting.

- **Peter moved that the annual meeting be held on June 10. John seconded the motion, which passed.**
- Rick will work with Bill Lunney to obtain the participation of the retired county executives for a panel discussion.
- The consensus was to hold the meeting at the Seven Acres Dairy Company in Paoli.
- There was discussion of election of board members. The terms of John, Barbara, and Jane Licht will expire. Rich Eggleston's position must be refilled. Emeritus status for Joanne Jensen should be confirmed.

Relocation committee. There was discussion of a draft of space requirements for a new location. It was suggested that the archives would require 1,200 square feet, with space for researchers to work. There will be requirements for control of air quality, temperature, and humidity.

New Business. Gini brought up the need for board recruitment. She suggested sending requests to the local historical organizations, requesting not just individuals, but people to represent their part of the county. She asked for a status report at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p. m.