

Sibley County Historical Society  
700 Main Street  
Henderson, MN 56044  
April 2024 Meeting Minutes  
Held on Thursday, May 2, 2024, 5:30 p.m.

**Attendance:** Joy Cohrs, Diane Fredin, Becky Briggs, Verne Schlueter, Del Quast, Tom Frauendienst, Holly Harjes, Shirley Black

Guest: Brian Fredin

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by President Joy Cohrs at 5:30 pm.

**Agenda: Approve/deny April Agenda:**

Added the Following Topics:

- Minnesota Flag (On loan from Holly Harjes)
- Hibernians (Irish Catholic Church) coming to Jessenland Township
- Lighting in the basement.

A motion to approve the agenda with the above additions was made by Verne Schlueter, Second by Tom Frauendienst. Passed.

**Minutes: Approve/deny March 2024 minutes.**

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Diane Fredin, Second by Tom Frauendienst. Passed

**Treasurer Report: Approve/deny April Treasurer Report:** Presented by Tom Frauendienst. All questions were answered. The motion was made by Shirley Black to approve the Treasurer's Report. The second was made by Becky Briggs. Passed.

**Old Business:**

**Annual Meeting:** 39 people registered, 38 people attended.

**Anniversary-Diane Fredin:**

- Diane presented a summary of the Anniversary Plans.
  - Food – catered from Hahn's in Winthrop. It will be mainly hors d'oeuvres.
    - Diane is looking for a vehicle to transport the food.
  - After much discussion, it was decided to plan for 150 people.
  - Entertainment:
    - Two music performers were discussed:
      - 1.) Verne Schlueter and Ronnie Hillesheim
      - 2.) Chuck Thiele with another player. Cost is \$400.
    - It was decided to go with the original plan of having Verne lead the musical performance for the afternoon.

**Possible Gas leak at the Museum:** This was checked out and all is fine.

**School Tour:** 88 students (3<sup>rd</sup> graders) plus additional adults toured the museum on May 1<sup>st</sup>. There was discussion on what the appropriate age of the students should be for touring. While some students were engaged on the last tour, others were not.

**Senior Expo:** Joy Cohrs, Holly Harjes, Verne Schlueter, Diane & Brian Fredin went to the event, which was held April 18<sup>th</sup> at the Berdan Center in Winthrop. SCHS had a table there. The event went well and there was some traffic to our table.

**Baseball Gloves:** The gloves have been received and will be used for the sports display at the Sibley County Fair this year.

### **New Business:**

**Work days:** The following Saturdays have been set aside for spring cleaning at the museum: May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 18. Starting at 9:00 am. Please bring cleaning cloths and outdoor lawn tools.

**Newspaper ads for Anniversary:** Diane presented the ad she did. Joy will take care of getting it into the local newspapers. Correction from Diane Fredin: *“Diane has sent via email to area newspapers the revised poster to be included in a near-future ad featuring the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. A note was made to the newspapers that the Arlington paper would be doing a special article on the museum & would be sending this article along to the other newspapers in the area.”*

**Speaker at Gibbon:** Reminder that the May meeting is at the Gibbon Library at 5:30, followed by the speaker.

**Leading Sibley Tour:** “Strengthening Sibley’s Future” will hold its Annual Banquet at the River Bottom Tavern. Board members are invited, paying for their own meal (\$25). The group will tour the museum on May 21<sup>st</sup> – 2:30-3:30 pm.

**Menards –** Nonprofit card for purchases. President Joy Cohrs presented our Menards nonprofit cards – which may be used when purchasing items for the museum. *No sales tax when using the card.*

**Anniversary Crocks:** President Joy Cohrs presented to the Board, Anniversary crocks that she had made by someone she knew. Joy spent \$2200 on the crocks and proposed to the Board that she donate \$1,000 leaving the crocks at \$15 apiece to break even. There was discussion on what amount to sell the crocks for at the Anniversary, including \$15, \$20, and \$25. The sale price was not chosen. A motion was made by Tom Frauendienst to accept Joy’s offer. Verne seconded the motion. Passed.

**Volunteer Concerns:** President Joy Cohrs will be meeting with the volunteers to hear some concerns that they have.

**Old Newspapers:** The newspapers we had scanned, but were no longer needed here at the museum, were picked up by the Minnesota State Historical Society

**Minnesota Flag:** Holly Harjes has a Minnesota Flag that she will loan to the museum.

**Hibernians:** The Hibernians (Irish Catholic organization) are coming to Jessenland Township where they will make a cultural center. It will also be the Organization's State Headquarters. Discussion on letting them use items from the museum, such as school desks, duplicate items, providing them with books. A motion was made by Diane Fredin to work cooperatively with the Hibernians. Holly Harjes seconded the motion.

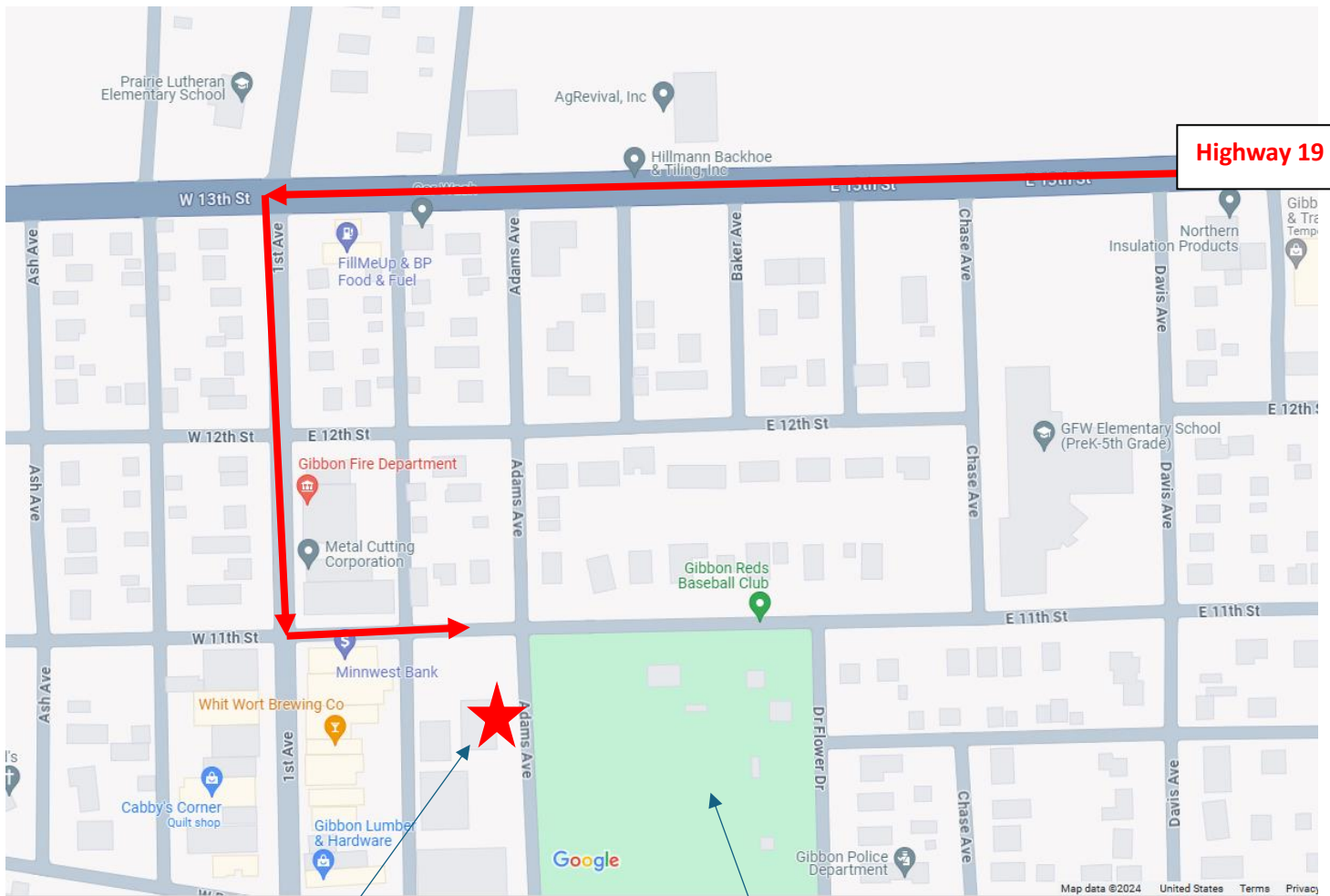
**Lighting in the basement:** New bulbs were just put into the basement making it much brighter.

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

- May speaker: **May 23<sup>rd</sup>** 6:30 pm at the Gibbon Library. SCHS will sponsor author Carolyn Sowinski (*The Great Storm: Minnesota's Victims in the Blizzard of January 7, 1873*). **The May SCHS Meeting will be held prior to the presentation at 5:30 pm in the library's computer lab.** The Gibbon Librarian, Kim Holmquist will be putting together the posters. (see attached map)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Shirley Black, SCHS Secretary



*Gibbon Library - 1050 Adams Avenue (between Minnwest Bank and the City Park)*



*Coming from the East on Highway 19. Turn south (left) unto First Avenue (by the Fill Me up Gas Station). Go two blocks. Turn left at Minnwest Bank. Library is located behind the bank. Parking lot is shared by the bank and the library.*