

Isabella County  
Sesquicentennial Steering Committee  
Minutes January 7, 2009

Members present: L. Anderson, M. Brandell, S. Davidson, B. Denslow, C. Lapham, M. Lapham, F. Lichtman, J. Pamp, N. Sanders, K. Voeks, N. White, R. Young,

Meeting opened by Vice-Chair, Loren Anderson.

Discussion of 12-18-08 minutes: Members please note, we did not make deadline for the 2% discount on the book order. Motion made by Bob Denslow and seconded by Clair Lapham to accept the minutes of December 18, 2008. Approved.

Guest: David Ling addressed resignation of Chairperson Christine Alwood, introduced new member Commissioner Frances Lichtman and suggested appointment of new Chairperson at next meeting. David entertained questions: Clair asked if commissioners who represent townships could be encouraged to promote the Sesquicentennial in the townships.

Historical Representation: No report.

Schools: Funds are needed to cover cost of flyers to go in student Friday folders. Discussion of cost. Lapham's Garden Center will donate \$150 for cost. Frances will check at county office to see if we can print copies through the county. Margaret is available to help run copies.

Event Planning/Time Capsule: Inn Sports and Soaring Eagle will sponsor a 'Biggest Loser' contest. Discussion: Entry forms & liability.

Wednesday, January 14, at 5:30 event/fundraising meeting scheduled at county building. Someone interested in sponsoring pig roast contest & potential volunteers may attend.

Cost of laser light show is around \$12,000. Motion made by Margaret Lapham to give Steve Davidson approval to write a grant application to Morey Foundation for \$12,000 for the laser light show. Seconded by Keith Voeks. Approved.

Miller Fireworks of Indiana gave quote of \$10,000. Bandit offered \$2000 towards show by Miller. Concern raised that we give Michigan companies chance to quote price for comparable show, and any other large ticket items.

Banners: 3 sold to date. Need to ask Joel for better visibility on web-page. Have table and forms available on February 11th in order to make it easier for people to buy.

Publicity/Communication: Press releases went out a few weeks ago, one general and one for Founder's Day, & information was included in Mt. Pleasant Magazine. Founder's Day flyer needs to be proofed & completed. Bill Peters will help distribute to businesses throughout county. Discussion of cost, stock & color. Frances will check with county to see if this can be printed through county. Margaret can help run copies.

The Morning Sun wants us to do paid ads. A publicity sub-committee might be helpful to brain-storm ideas. Discussion: Average person in county doesn't know about 150th.

Frances raised question if we have approached community service organizations in effort to publicize events. Jack Westbrook offered to do his Power Point and sign books at these organizations. Frances will approach Lions Club if someone else will speak. Steve will check meeting dates & times of various groups. Keith offered to talk at these.

Fundraising: Mugs are ordered for Founder's Day. Print-Tech will print logo on consignment. Sub-committee meeting January 14, at 5:30.

Website: Rich suggests one person to follow up with new person, Joel, to give him direction. Events and fund-raising items need better visibility, on front page. Nicole forwarded information from press releases to Joel for web-page & will try to meet with him.

Founder's Day: Firstbank will donate \$700 for cost of program book. Dignitaries are invited for Cupola Dedication. Recipients are selected for John Cummings award. Frank Boles will be presenter. We have about 15 exhibitors and about 35 first families are expected. Bill Peters & Sherry Sponseller will work on set up. Members of The D.A. R. will be greeters. P.R. Central will recruit volunteers. Keith has 2 students to work sales. T-shirts for volunteers? Can we get a sponsor to pay the cost or do we just give volunteers the shirts? Donna Hoff-Grambau is arranging for musicians. Can they donate their time? Frances will check with county about custodial help & extra trash cans.

Time Capsule: Time capsule will be file box size. Winners of children's poster contest will be included on digital media.

Refreshments for Founder's Day: Keith has 3 possible food donors and will also see if Pepsi or Coke can supply beverages. Clair may have 3 food donors. Margaret will see if Christine has made any contacts for the cake or other food. Keith has volunteers to pick up donated food & make returns. Need firm food commitments by next meeting, 1-28-09.

Sesquicentennial Ball: Steve presented menu and timeline for evening and ideas for fundraising. Ticket per person \$40. D.J. is donated. Central Michigan Players will provide dinner music. Bev Childs will donate cake with shape of cupola on top. Robyn has student group working on decorations. Another group is working on dress contest. Questions were raised regarding publicity, what we had named the ball, the vision we have for the ball, & what activities are appropriate. Discussion followed. Anyone interested in working on this should attend sub-committee meeting on the 14th.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 28, 2009, at 5:30.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Margaret Lapham, Secretary