

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
Cultural Heritage Center
Pierre, South Dakota
April 23, 2020

Call to Order

The meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees was called to order by President Brad Tennant on April 23, 2020 at 12:45 p.m. by teleconference, with staff in the Education Room of the Cultural Heritage Center, Pierre, South Dakota. A quorum was present.

Board Members Present

Sean J. Flynn, John D. Fowler, Richard D. Harnois, Tom Hurlbert, Laurie Langland, Jon Lauck, Peggy Sanders, Rolene Schliesman, Brad Tennant, Francis Whitebird, and David A. Wolff.

State Historical Society Staff Present

Jay D. Vogt, Chelle Somsen, Ted Spencer, Nancy T. Koupal, Jay Smith, Renee Boen, Liz Almlie, Kate Nelson, Sofia Mattesini, Catherine Forsch and Jeff Mammenga.

Others Present

Rachael Meyerink, Sioux Falls; Ben Rhodd, Rosebud; and Jeff Pownell, Huron.

Welcome and Announcements

President Brad Tennant welcomed the members of the board, staff of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and guests. Tennant congratulated Director Vogt on his recent appointment as an Expert Member of the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Tennant also asked those present to take a moment of silence in memory of board member Tom Tobin, who passed away in December.

Board Minutes

Minutes of the Board of Trustees' meeting of December 13, 2019 were mailed to the members of the Board of Trustees after the meeting. A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn and seconded by Jon Lauck to approve the minutes of December 13, 2019 with the correction to strike the word "brief" from New Business. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 9 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Lauck, Sanders, Tennant, and Wolff.

Public Comment

Tennant asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

State Review Board

The State Review Board convened at 1:00 p.m.

National Register Nominations

State Historic Preservation Office staff presented four nominations for review.

Presented by Kate Nelson:

- 1) He Dog School, Parmelee, Todd County.

The He Dog School is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for education and Criterion C for architecture and art. It served the community for 84 years and was a focal point of community life in the northwest corner of the Rosebud Indian Reservation. It is the only school in South Dakota constructed off a Rosenwald Fund school plan. A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn and seconded by Francis Whitebird to recommend the approval of the

nomination of the He Dog School to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff. Ben Rhodd, Rosebud Sioux Tribe Historic Preservation Office, commented for the school and was available to answer any questions.

Presented by Liz Almlie:

- 2) E.O. and Etta Jones House, Sioux Falls, Minnehaha County.

The E.O. and Etta Jones House is eligible for the National Register under Criterion B in the area of law at a local level of significance. The house is associated with attorney Elbert Orlando Jones, who represented Minnehaha County in the 1910s and 20s during a series of litigation cases about the substantial drainage ditch systems that had been built north of the city. A MOTION WAS MADE by Tom Hurlbert and seconded by Sean Flynn to recommend the approval of the nomination of the E.O. and Etta Jones House to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff. Rachael Meyerink, owner, was available to answer any questions.

Presented by Sofia Mattesini:

- 3) Habicht & Habicht Department Store, Huron, Beadle County.

The Habicht & Habicht Department Store is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A for local significance in the area of commerce and Criterion C for its local architectural significance. A MOTION WAS MADE by John Fowler and seconded by Peggy Sanders to recommend the approval of the nomination of the Habicht & Habicht Department Store to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes: Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff. Jeff Pownell, owner, commented for the store and was available to answer any questions.

Presented by Sofia Mattesini:

- 4) Ipswich Masonic Temple, Ipswich, Edmunds County.

The Ipswich Masonic Temple is eligible for the National Register under Criterion A in the context of social history for its association with the local Masonic Chapter and Criterion C for its architectural significance. A MOTION WAS MADE by Rolene Schliesman and seconded by Laurie Langland to recommend the approval of the nomination of the Ipswich Masonic Temple to the National Register of Historic Places. Motion prevailed on a roll call vote with 9 ayes: Members voting aye: Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff and 1 nay: Flynn.

The state review board adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Reports

Director Jay D. Vogt submitted his report. (Attachment #1). Vogt answered questions regarding the affect Coronavirus (COVID-19) has on the budget, reopening the Cultural Heritage Center and collections insurance regarding the security installation. Trustee Fowler asked for more information about Vogt being an expert member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and Vogt said their next meeting is scheduled for July. Fowler also asked about having insurance on the society's collections during the security installation and Vogt said the contractors have their own insurance.

Jay Smith, Museum Director, submitted his report. (Attachment #2). Smith gave an update on the contractors working on the new building security system, including insurance on collections. Smith

reported that the museum is adding new digital activities on the Society website and Facebook pages, including one from the Smithsonian.

Renee Boen, State Archaeologist, submitted her report. (Attachment #3). Boen gave an update on the Archaeology Office move to a new location, reported staff have begun field work and mentioned the office is starting new projects. She also noted that Mike Fosha has retired from the office.

Chelle Somsen, State Archivist, submitted the Archives report. (Attachment #4). Somsen reported that Archives is working on outreach – documenting COVID-19; she mentioned that her office has received quite a few photos for the project. Archives has included a scavenger hunt on their Facebook page. Somsen said inmates are no longer working for her office since March, which includes scanning and microfilming.

Ted Spencer, Director of the Historic Preservation Office, submitted his report. (Attachment #5). Spencer reported that his office sponsored a statewide essay contest for all students in the fourth grade. There were 133 entries from 19 schools across the state. The top three students were awarded cash prizes and a one-year family membership to the Society. Spencer mentioned that certain historic sites were approved by the National Park Service and that his office is waiting for a report on the Oscar Howe Mural Contract, and that Deadwood Historic Preservation is facing severe financial difficulties.

Nancy T. Koupal, Director of Research and Publishing, submitted her report. (Attachment #6). Koupal reported that book sales are slow, which is somewhat related to Ingalls Wilder sites being shut down. Francis Whitebird offered to help with translating the Lakota language in the future after reading the recent Historical Society Press book “Spotted Tail.”

Catherine Forsch, President of the South Dakota Historical Society Foundation, submitted her report. (Attachment #7). Forsch reported on the “Her Vote. Her Voice” woman suffrage campaign. She mentioned that the events have been moved to Fall. The August events are on hold, publicizing is on hold and website is up and running. The Governor’s Office has helped with some printing. The Foundation is still raising money for Society projects.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Three projects were recommended to the board for approval for Deadwood Fund grants. (Attachment #8). A MOTION WAS MADE by Peggy Sanders and seconded by Tom Hurlbert to approve the recommended grants to the Sisseton Middle School, Sisseton (\$22,500); Yankton UCC Church, Yankton (\$15,000); and the Habicht’s Building, Huron (\$12,550); and to include \$5,000 for annual disbursement from the Deadwood Grant Fund for site maintenance and repairs to three historic sites in Pierre/Fort Pierre for the Verendrye Monument, Fort Pierre Chouteau, and Oahe Chapel. These three properties are owned by the State of South Dakota and managed by the South Dakota State Historical Society. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff.

Other Business

Jay D. Vogt reported that the Annual History Conference was cancelled this year due to COVID-19 and the museum staff will be organizing next year’s conference. The Society recognized four individuals and two organizations with 2020 Governor’s Awards for History for their efforts in preserving state history. The award winners include Michael Runge, Deadwood; Pat Roseland, Rapid City; Robert J. Cordts, Madison; Steven J. Bucklin, Vermillion; Reliabank, Watertown; and the Fall River County

Historical Society, Hot Springs. Runge and Roseland were the individual award winners. Cordts is the 2020 History Teacher of the Year. Bucklin is the recipient of the 2020 Herbert S. Schell Award. Reliabank and the Fall River County Historical Society are the organizational winners.

Director Vogt reported that the Historical Society members re-elected David A. Wolff, Spearfish as a member-at-large and Jennifer R. Winter, Pierre was elected to the professional archaeologist position to serve on the Board of Trustees for three-year terms. Current Trustee Richard Harnois did not run for re-election for the professional archaeologist position. Vogt has not heard from Governor Kristi Noem regarding her appointments. Brad Tennant's term is up this year and Tom Tobin's term was up this year as well.

The next scheduled board meeting and Administrative Rules Hearing is scheduled June 19, 2020 at the Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre beginning at 9:45 a.m. Director Vogt is currently holding off if these will take place due to COVID-19 concerns.

The South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees commended Richard D. Harnois in recognition of nine years of service to the board in promoting, nurturing and sustaining the historical and cultural heritage of South Dakota for the life-long education and enrichment of present and future generations.

Recommendations for Certificates of Recognition were presented. (Attachment #9). A MOTION WAS MADE by Sean Flynn and seconded by Laurie Langland to approve the recommended Recommendations for Certificates of Recognition. Motion prevailed unanimously on a roll call vote with 10 ayes. Members voting aye: Flynn, Fowler, Harnois, Hurlbert, Langland, Sanders, Schliesman, Tennant, Whitebird, and Wolff.

There was no executive session.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 3:30 p.m.

I, Jay D. Vogt, Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, declare that these minutes are a true and accurate reflection of the business conducted at the April 23, 2020 meeting of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees.

Jay D. Vogt, Director
South Dakota State Historical Society

Jeff Mammenga
Recording Secretary