

The annual meeting of the Luxembourg Heritage Society of Northwest Iowa was held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 in the meeting room of the Remsen Public Library. President Dennis Wolf opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. with a good representation of the membership present.

The agenda was amended. The minutes were read and approved as read. Mary Riedemann gave the treasurer's report. Opening balance as of March 20, 2019, was \$3,795.98, deposit of \$20.00 brought the ending balance to \$3,815.98. A donation of \$100 will be deposited in the account. A bill of \$27.30 for stamps, post cards and card stock paper was presented by Jean Nilles. Judy Stokesberry gave a motion to pay the bill, seconded by Tom Hansen. Motion carried. The secretary read the minutes from the first meeting which was held on April 2, 2005. Many goals were presented in the minutes and of interest to the members of today. Some goals have been met.

The secretary read a letter from Joe Feller, a member and also attorney, in regard to our 501 (c) 3 status and suggestions of how we could proceed to regain it. Dennis will contact a local CPA in order to re-instate us with Iowa's regulations and consult further with Joe. We may need to change our original name. Hopefully, we will be able to apply for grants from Iowa's various categories in art and improvements.

Information regarding the painting of a mural on an Alton building was presented by Judy Stokesberry after consulting with Amber Hansen. Amber is willing to assist us. Suggestion was to contact school art teachers, have classes design posters and possible ideas for the mural. Family histories from the area towns could be included.

Election of Officers was held. All present officers accepted another two years to serve the Society.

Members offered to make contacts in regard to the parade. Dennis will work on the antique car club and sheep entrants by local 4-H or FFA members. Ric Hansen is contacting MOC for art project and their band to participate. The route the parade will take needs to be marked and timed as how long the parade may take. Other ideas are the VFW and scout troops to lead with the flags. Chamber members from each town need to be contacted and if they wish to have a float from their town. Shriners were also a suggestion. Numerous items were discussed as to the parade and other events.

The dignitaries that come need to be honored at a reception. A speaker is needed. Those who now have dual citizenship, the area Tri-State members and those from the original families will also be highlighted. The Country club in Alton is a possibility for the reception. The Home Plate catering business was suggested for the meal. May have to have a RSVP for the number attending and they will pay their own meal (except the dignitaries invited). Cash bar could be available as well.

St. Mary's of Alton has OK'd the sign at the St. Donatus site. Suggestion was to have the descendants of the original settlers help pay the cost of the sign. Bids will have to be gathered and presented. Flags for the 40 families buried in the area cemeteries is being considered. Contact will need to be made from the various church cemeteries to see where they are buried.

Some type of meeting in the various towns was suggested in order to have people find out what we are planning. Self-guided tours will need assistance if they wish to have them come to their town. Names are helpful to set this up.

Ideas for the brochure are needed so that we can get it printed up to distribute. E-mail your ideas! Would like to work on it at the next meeting. Judy suggested we come up with a "name" to call the celebration. Mary R. has gathered the names of the hotels in the area that will be included.

Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> is the date for the outdoor Mass at the St. Donatus site, weather permitting. Bring a lawn chair. Mass will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Father Paul Eisele presiding and Deacon Rick Roder assisting. In case of inclement weather, we will have the Mass at St. Mary's in Alton at 6:30 p.m. Following the Mass a social time/meal will be at the 10<sup>th</sup> St. Bar and Grill in Alton. Directions to the site are from the Golden Pheasant, ten miles north on L-14, one mile west on 480<sup>th</sup> St. or from highway 10, 2 miles south on L-14 to 480<sup>th</sup> St.

Prior to the meeting refreshments were served. The meeting was adjourned. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Remsen Public Library meeting room. Bring your ideas!

Dues are \$20 for family membership. If you have not sent in your 2019 dues, the address is: P.O. Box 414, Remsen, Iowa 51050.

Secretary, Jean Nilles