

Grant County Historical Society

Minutes for the Meeting

February 15, 2023

- Meeting was called to order by president Travis LeMaster at 6:15 pm, opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- There were 19 present, including 4 officers.
- Minutes of November, 2022 were presented. Re'nee moved to approve. Sarah seconded. Minutes approved as presented.
- Treasurer's report was presented. Society has an account balance of \$6284.69. Sarah moved to approve. Janice Miller seconded. Treasurer report approved as presented.
- Travis advised the MPL & Taylor Family Insurance are new corporate sponsors.

At 6:30pm the speaker joined the meeting by ZOOM. Norma Johnson presented an overview of the Pettiford and Weaver free black families, who migrated into Grant Co. from North Carolina & Pennsylvania starting in 1820. Edmond Pettiford was one of the first to arrive. He and John & Lucy Tuttle son began the Weaver Settlement in southern Grant Co. Weaver became a vibrant community. Most recently, the tract was acquired & leased out by the Irving Corp. The Weaver/Pettiford families purchased the current site to keep it in the family, and to grant public access.

Committee Reports:

- Executive Committee- No new business
- Program Committee- Annual dinner will be at the Tomahawk on 4-19. The meeting will be at 6pm, with the meal at 6:30pm. The program will begin at 7pm. Reservations are due by the end of March. Cost will be \$20.00 per person.
- Membership Committee- All dues are to be submitted by March 31. However, new members may join at the Annual Dinner. Re'nee advised that letters are being sent out to local Social Studies teachers regarding junior memberships.
- Publications Committee- Would there be any interest in forming a working group to update the History of Marion book now owned by the Society? Since the project would involve a lot of input, would the IWU history department be interested in helping. Points could be checked.

The first newsletter has been completed. Re'nee would like volunteers to write articles about Grant Co. industries.

- Outreach Committee- Rhonda reported that the probate project is starting to wrap up. 5,991 packets have been completed. They are hoping to complete the project in February or March.
- Nominating Committee- Sarah will finish Margaret's term as treasurer. Margaret is unable to continue due to health. Officers & board members willing to continue next year were reviewed.

Unfinished Business: VP Angie continues work on a "Show & Tell" event for this summer. Members & guests with Grant CO artifacts may participate. In interest of time, item appraisals will probably not be offered.

New Business: First United Methodist Church is celebrating 100 years in Marion this year. County historian Bill Munn will do a presentation in April. The next Society meeting will be on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:15pm at the library.

President Travis adjourned the meeting at 7:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Robert Miller, Secretary