

Saturday, January 26th, 2019, the Luxembourg Heritage Society of Northwest Iowa met in the meeting room of the Remsen Public Library. Vice President Judy Stokesberry brought the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. Members and guests present were Tom Hansen, Joe Konz, Ethel Heidesch, Dennis Wolf, Judy Stokesberry, Ric Hansen, Tom Schlessler and Jean Nilles.

The minutes were read and approved as read. In the absence of the treasurer, the secretary gave her report. The opening balance was \$3,693.98, deposits \$120 in membership dues, expenses \$38 for P.O. Box rent. The ending balance is \$3,775.98.

On the agenda Jean Nilles presented the information from Red's Printing for a sign to be placed at the St. Donatus site. They will make it on aluminum with the names of the first group of settlers coming to Sioux County in May of 1870. The names of the next few groups will be displayed along with a short story. Price in a ball park figure is around \$1,700 for a 4' x 4' sign. A cement pad will have to be laid to bolt the sign. We would encourage the descendants' help with the cost.

Ric reported that Amber Hansen is interested in designing a mural to be placed on a building in Alton. She will come up with two or three designs that the committee will decide on. People interested in painting are welcome to help during this summer.

We would like to send invitations to our ambassador and members of the royal family or representatives. Dennis will work on the details. He also is going to contact LACS in Belgium, WI for information where to send the letters. He will see if they know of any music groups or singers that may be touring the US in 2020.

Judy is going to look into the insurance we may need for the two day event.

Alton Catholic Order of Foresters said they would furnish a breakfast after the Sunday Mass, June 7th, 2020.

Sponsorship from various businesses was discussed to help defray costs of brochures and other projects.

Ethel will check with the director of St. Mary's Choir, Remsen, to see if they would be interested in singing at the Mass. We also would like the Alton and Granville choirs and other groups interested to join together.

Judy checked with the Gehlen Marching Band and St. Mary's band if they would want to be in the parade. They could not commit at this time but were interested.

We discussed contacting the museums in various towns to see if they would have a brochure for their town to be used for a self-guided tour that weekend. Ethel will talk to Remsen Museum, Judy has gone to the Alton library/museum and they have a walking tour map already. Tom Hansen will talk to the Betterment Bureau in Granville. Jean is going to visit with the Plymouth county museum in Le Mars and the museum at Marcus. We would also like them to guide people to the church and cemetery in their town. We would like to designate the plots where the Luxembourgers are buried with flags.

The meeting adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, February 23, 2019, at Remsen's Library. Start time is 9:30. If we have inclement weather at that time, a later date will be sent out by email or newspaper release. KLEM in Le Mars will also announce cancellations.

Secretary, Jean Nilles