

THE 26TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MAPLEWOOD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP



Annual Meeting Held at 6 p.m. on August 20, 2023
Maplewood Area Historical Society
2170 Co Rd D E, Maplewood MN 55109

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MAPLEWOOD AREA
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETING AGENDA

6 PM - SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

Call to Order

Adoption of Agenda

Adoption of Minutes

Welcome & President's Address by Michelle Williams

Staff Reports

Executive Director's Report by T.J. Malaskee

Financial & Development Report by Amy Puschinsky

Building & Grounds Report by Bill Bruentrup

New Business

Vote on Proposed By-Law Changes

Election of New Board Members

Program by MAHS Interns

For the Good of the Order

Adjournment

Minutes of MAHS Annual Members Meeting

Sunday, August 14, 2022, 4:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Welcome

5:30 p.m. President Michael Ericson

Recognition of current board members

2. Treasurer's report - Bob Jensen

Net worth approximately \$110,000 as of December 31, 2021

2020 net worth approximately \$38,000

Increase in cash account of about \$72,000

Donations income largest source \$69,000

Grant income almost \$16,000

a. Collective Access new software to catalog artifacts

b. Recycling grant

c. Wildwood Lion Scholarship

Wedding rental \$38,000

Director \$\$ for part of year

Endowment grown to \$40,000. St. Paul and Minnesota Foundation. Cannot access principal, but at a future date can draw upon annual grant.....meant to be long term

SUMMARY: Adequate resources and multiple sources of income

Motion to approve Sandy Dicke

Second Nikki Villaviciencio

All present voted in the affirmative

3. Secretary's minutes - Jason DeMoe

Jason was not present as secretary at Annual Meeting 2021. Per Bob Jensen: "While attendance was at an all-time low, we had a sufficient quorum to elect the four incumbent officers at the meeting September 5. Mike Ericson, President. Bill Bruentrup Vice President. Mary O'Malley Secretary. Bob Jensen, Treasurer."

Motion to accept Bob Cardinal

Second Steve Carlson

All present voted in the affirmative

4. Directors Report - TJ

What you do matters

Everyone in the room matters

Supporting us online is very appreciated

The good work WE do is the good work you all do

11 months on the job: Great growth, great activity, great new relationships

Maplewood does not have a downtown, but it does have a heart and soul in this building, on these grounds, and in this organization

Camps have been extremely important this year. Five weeks and 62 kids.
Praise to first ever non-profit internship leaders Kara McGowan and Sophia Peifer
Hmong Language and Culture Camp instructors shout out
Remembrance of meeting in Mankato at history conference with Bill and Raydelle and others
Spoke about Farmers Market
Praise to Brittany Johnson, "star volunteer". Her social media skills brought us to "next level".
As of 10pm last night, we surpassed 3000 Facebook followers (more than City of Maplewood itself)
The Academy for Sciences & Agriculture High School students coming to do workdays on farm for several years. Relationship has grown a lot lately.
This month we will see our first bus tour. Mankato, Minnesota group will come to tour the farm.
Tonight is something to look back on. Remember when we had record numbers of attendance at our annual meeting.
You matter.

5. President's Report - Mike Ericson

Welcomed TJ in September
Thanks Claudia for helping us with the search
TJ is first ever full time executive director
Praise and thanks to newest board members, Pangjua, Nikki, and Jason
History's Mysteries thank you
Grounds work thanks
Beer Choir thanks
Summer camp thanks
Summer tea thanks
Farmers market thanks
20 weddings record number this year
Many volunteers dedicate hundreds of hours---thanks
Ukraine event thanks--pro video via the City of Maplewood
Executive Director funded for 5 years thanks to anonymous donor
Thanks to Nikki for promoting us in the Maplewood Newsletter
Thanks to Mikes wife
14 people desire to serve on board. We have never seen that kind of number.

6. Election of 8 At-Large members

46 ballots cast, 1 thrown out
45 ballots counted in final election
Mike Ericson reads tallies
Raydelle B, Steve Carlson, Sandy Dicke, Pete Boulay
Marianne Bruentrup, Stephanie Forliti, Mickey Michlitsch, Michelle Williams

7. Other business

A Resolution to Create a Committee to Review and Revise the Maplewood Area Historical Society (MAHS) Bylaws

WHEREAS: the need for bylaws as a governing document is essential and legally required for nonprofit organizations in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: MAHS is a nonprofit incorporated in the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The MAHS Bylaws have not been formally reviewed or revised since 2018; and

WHEREAS: Best practices for nonprofit museums are key to a nonprofit museum's success; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the membership of the Maplewood Area Historical Society charge MAHS Board of Directors President and MAHS Executive Director to form a committee to review the Maplewood

Area Historical Society Bylaws (2018 version); and be it further

RESOLVED: That this committee be comprised of the MAHS Board President and a committee member of his/her choosing from within the duly elected MAHS Board of Directors, and the MAHS

Executive Director, a committee member of his/her choosing from within the duly elected MAHS Board of Directors, and an additional committee member of the Executive Director's choosing from

MAHS staff or membership; and be it further

RESOLVED: That recommendations for revision to the MAHS Bylaws be presented by said committee to the organizational membership via email no later than June 30, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the individual recommendations for revision to the MAHS Bylaws be voted on for approval, rejection, or amendment by the MAHS Members present at the next Annual Meeting of

the Maplewood Area Historical Society in August, 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED: That any revisions to the Maplewood Area Historical Society Bylaws be adopted immediately upon the vote of the membership.

Motion Claudia Nicholson

Second Jason DeMoe

Bill Bruentrup voted Nay

All others present voted in the affirmative

8. Adjournment by Mike Ericson at 6:50 pm

OUR MISSION

Where the heritage and history of
the Maplewood area lives

Educating - Sharing - Preserving

The Maplewood Area Historical Society (MAHS) is a membership organization comprised of individuals, acting in the public trust, engaged in the practice of history and representing its many disciplines and professions. The MAHS expects its members, employees, and elected officials to abide by the ethical and performance standards adopted by all appropriate discipline based and professional organizations.

The MAHS and its members are to comply with all laws, regulations and applicable international conventions. The association and its members are expected to take affirmative steps to maintain their integrity so as to warrant public confidence. The following ethical statements and related professional standards are provided for the guidance of all members of the MAHS.





WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...

Focusing on the Bruentrup Heritage Farm's rural roots, in 2022 we introduced the brand new Big Red Barn Farmers Market, showcasing our area's agricultural past and present.

We expanded our camps in 2022, and saw more than 100 children in our summer and fall day camps. By the end of the 2023 day camp season, about 220 children will experience day camps at our museum.

In 2022, we debuted our new St. Nikolaustag on the Farm celebration, which explored the history behind German-American holiday traditions.



"Now my kids know where their food comes from! They learned all about the city where Dad grew up. I am not forgotten. What a special way to spend our summer. THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!"
-- Matthew B., Summer Camp Parent

We continue to enhance our programming, delivering mission-driven Summer Teas and events geared towards a wide range of audiences.

The recent donation of Lillie News materials bolstered our collection with more than 132,000 new artifacts and records.

At the Minnesota Alliance of Local History Museums' Annual Conference in 2023, MAHS was awarded two Minnesota History Awards; One award was given for Hmong Language & Culture Camp, and another was given for our new Nonprofit Leadership Internship.

2022

13,154 visitors onsite

2023 (so far!)

>9,000 visitors onsite





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been my pleasure to serve as Acting President of the Maplewood Area Historical Society (MAHS) during a period of great change.

I first found MAHS a year ago, as I was looking for a change. As a small business owner, I wanted to find an intimate, curated Farmers Market where I was part of a community first and the “soap and candle lady” second. When I walked onto the Bruentrup Heritage Farm, I knew I’d found that magical place. That change for MAHS – a small Farmers Market at the farm – changed the lives of the small business owners who are part of the market community. We have met more than a few of the 13,000 visitors to the site, we have celebrated each other’s victories, and know our customers as friends. I take such joy in watching their children grow, hearing from them about theater performances and hobbies, and answering their questions about my own family’s activities.

Change, as we know, can also be hard. This was the year that MAHS finished its transition from a fully volunteer-run organization to one organized under a non-profit governance model with paid staff. As a Board, we worked with our staff to ensure that the changes we made to our processes and practices aligned with those of comparable non-profits. With that, we celebrated state-level peer recognition, began partnerships to increase our program offerings to more accurately reflect the diverse community that Maplewood and the surrounding community have always been.

Our membership now comes from across the United States. Our collection now includes over 130,000 items. Change, then, can also be beneficial. That growth, and the expansion of our reputation in the nonprofit world will help us continue to grow with intention.

With the help of our members and donors, we now are poised to take MAHS from a regional museum to one that is known nationally.

Thank you for being part of that journey.

Michelle R. Williams, PhD
Acting President



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

2022 saw the Maplewood Area Historical Society turn the ripe ol' age of 25. We're a young organization in the world of historical societies and museums. As I look back at the first moments of our inception, the commitment and enthusiasm of a tiny but mighty group of Maplewood volunteers rings loud in our memory of them. During an era of great change for the City of Maplewood, a dedicated group of residents banded together to make sure our history and the stories of those who have come before is not forgotten, and took it upon themselves to form the Maplewood Area Historical Society in 1997.

Twenty-five years later, we are again at a point of great change—not for the City of Maplewood, but—for the Maplewood Area Historical Society itself. Two years ago I accepted the offer of becoming MAHS's first full time Executive Director. In these twenty-four months, we have seen change that is both exciting and sometimes anxiety educing for many of us in this room. As our head-gardener, Ted Hein has said "2022/2023 has been a year of corrections."

I remain proud to have driven history into everything we do, expand our fundraising, and reach more visitors at the museum than we have ever seen before. But my proudest achievement is the staff we have brought on to raise the Maplewood Area Historical Society to a level of professionalism that works to elevate us into the regional museum I hope our founders a quarter century ago would be proud of.

The growth and elevation of our organization into the realm of museums and nonprofits, has come with immense highs, but also the struggle of real work realigning our values to be a museum of choice where all staff, volunteers, and guests feel safe, respected, and supported. We represent the best that the Maplewood Area has to offer.

We began 2023 with approximately a \$112,000 deficit due—in part—to nonpayment of contracted funds by our former wedding coordinator, and the malfeasance of Board Members who placed their personal relationships with her and her for-profit business above that of their legal duty of care, obedience, and loyalty to the Maplewood Area Historical Society. Many difficult conversations were had, and in the end, anyone who had placed the Maplewood Area Historical Society in jeopardy, detriment, or risk stepped down from leadership roles.

This transition comes with great responsibility, difficult work, but also amazing rewards. The Maplewood Area Historical Society is viewed across the state as a museum of growth, innovation, and thought leadership. Why? Because what we do matters. The integrity we place as supporters of the organization over ourselves, matters. The community that depends on us to be a resource matters. This is why we work every day to meet our mission of educating, sharing, and preserving the history of the Maplewood Area.

This is why we matter.
Good things to come.

Respectfully submitted,

T.J. Malaskee
Executive Director



FINANCIAL POSITION STATEMENT AS OF AUGUST 20, 2023

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1010 Premier Bank Checking (0350)	27,327.72
1020 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	0.00
1040 Petty Cash	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$27,327.72
Accounts Receivable	
1120 Allowance for Doubtful Debt	-30,000.00
Total Accounts Receivable	\$ -30,000.00
Other Current Assets	
1050 In-Kind Clearing	0.00
1510 Equity Advisors GWI Portfolio	0.00
1540 Prepaid Expenses	1,330.64
1560 Undeposited Funds	6,546.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$7,876.64
Total Current Assets	\$5,204.36
Fixed Assets	
1230 Building Improvements	12,727.00
1235 Accumulated Depreciation	-747.17
Total Fixed Assets	\$11,979.83
TOTAL ASSETS	\$17,184.19
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
2210 Credit Card (8614)	4,164.99
Total Credit Cards	\$4,164.99
Other Current Liabilities	
2320 Payroll Liability	0.00
2330 Renter Deposits Payable	1,300.00
2350 Deferred Revenue - Weddings	46,650.00
2360 Deferred Revenue - Mission Events	0.00
2370 Deferred Revenue - Fundraising Events	1,500.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$49,450.00
Total Current Liabilities	\$53,614.99
Total Liabilities	\$53,614.99
Equity	
3010 Fund Balance	73,731.59
Net Revenue	-110,162.39
Total Equity	\$ -36,430.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$17,184.19