

PRESS RELEASE REGARDING THE DECEMBER 19, 2024, MEETING OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CASEVILLE.

Members of the Historical Society of Caseville met on Thursday, Dec. 19, 2024, and heard a presentation by Caseville Schools about an upcoming heritage festival, discussed the possibility of including the community of Pinnebog in our museum's interests, and listened to a possible grant program by the State of Michigan for museum growth.

Vice President Ray Quiel called the monthly meeting to order at 10 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Other officers present: Angela Miller, treasurer; Carole Shereda, secretary. Trustees present: Rich & Roxy Bass and Cathy Snider (by zoom), Sherry & Harold Hoelzle, Dale Melson, Mary Taylor, Janet Ekel and Diane Reed. Members attending: Bud & Donna McCormick, Susan Melson, David Mauer, Patt Bennett, Suanne Hayes, and Kevin Cook.

Minutes of the November meeting were presented and added to the record. The treasurer's report was also presented by Angela Miller and added to the record.

Report from the President

Vice President Quiel thanked members for volunteering to keep the museum open during the past month. He also noted adoption of winter hours – Friday & Saturday, noon to 4:30 – by the museum.

Quiel introduced Theresa Hoard from Caseville Schools. She talked with members about the school's plans to sponsor a Heritage Festival on May 31, 2025. The school would like the historical society to participate in the 150-year celebration. Members discussed ideas and agreed to participate.

Quiel also talked about the historical society including Pinnebog in its planning and events. It was agreed that further inquiry will be made to accomplish that.

The state is offering grants of up to \$1 million for museums to develop programs that will help them grow and stabilize. The grant period lasts until 2029.

Report from the Events Committee: Our first event of 2025 is Shanty Days/Game-O-Rama. A sign-up sheet for the event was passed. Volunteers were encouraged to bring games for a fun day. A new event – Make & Take Watercolor art – supervised by Patt Bennett and Lori Cook and our other artistic members, will be added this year.

Members reviewed, discussed, and agreed on an events schedule for 2025. Events are: Shanty Days/Game-O-Rama – February 15, Noon – 4:30 pm – *New Event: Make & Take Watercolor Art*; Ice Cream Social – May 25, 1-3 pm; Ladies Luncheon – June 11, Noon – 2 pm; Cheeseburger Museum – August 8 - 17, Noon-4:30 pm every day – *What Is It Contest*,

Gift Basket Raffle, Key Lime Pie Bar Sales; Classic Car & Tractor Show – September 20, 10 am - 2 pm; All Museum Weekend – September 27 -28, Noon-4 pm; Witches Walk “Nightmare on Prospect Street” – October 25, 11-4:30 pm;’ Fall Feast and Auction – November 9, 1-3 pm.

Report from Museum and Archival Committee. The museum had three visitors in the last month.

Genealogy Committee: Barb Eimers is available to assist members or visitors interested in researching their family or building histories. Eimers has research materials available to help with investigations. This is free service and has been utilized by many Caseville residents and visitors. Make an appointment to meet with Barb at the museum during winter months.

History Moment/Matters for the Good of the Order: A cookie exchange was part of the last meeting of the year. Members also brought goods to donate to the food pantry and upkeep of the museum.

Our next meeting will take place at 10 am on Thursday, Jan. 16, 2025.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dale Melson and seconded by Sherry Hoelzle.

– *Minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Shereda, secretary.*