MEETING MINUTES
The Heritage Network

November 20, 2023
Stevens County Historical Society

CALL TO ORDER
President Joe Barreca called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

ATTENDANCE: Attending were Joe Barreca, Sue Richart, Bill Sebright, Susan Dechant, Lynn Wells, Retti Bitstrup and Rose Kalamarides.

NEXT MEETING: The group decided to meet at the Stevens County Historical Society in March 2024.

MINUTES: The October 16, 2023, minutes, were reviewed. Bill Sebright moved, and Sue Richart seconded the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Sue Richart reviewed the financial report which had been circulated via email prior to the meeting. The expenses exceeded income by $190.95. There was a $104.75 expense for webhosting. There was also an $80 expense for subscriptions to Spokane Preservation Advocates and Washington Museum Association. She also reported that with the closing of the THN post office box, she ordered checks with the new mailing address. The current asset level is $2,335.33.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The slate of officers verbally agreed to continue to serve. Sue Richart moved, and Susan Dechant seconded a motion to elect the current slate of officers. Motion carried.

Officer	Office	Email
Joseph Barreca	President	Joe.Barreca@gmail.com
Rose Kalamarides	Vice President	rosekalamarides@gmail.com
Janet Thomas	Secretary	THOMASATCOLVILLE@msn.com
Sue Richart	Treasurer	srichart4@gmail.com

KETTLE FALLS HISTORICAL CENTER: Retti Bitstrup reported on the ongoing issues with the restoration of the Center. The electrician was working on the electrical system and then a HVAC system would be installed. The insurance claim has been submitted and will cover much of the renovation, but additional funds are needed for the HVAC system. Volunteers are working setting up displays and writing grants for the additional funds needed.

HUDSON BAY/FORT COLVILLE BICENTENNIAL: Joe Barreca reported on the ongoing project for the bicentennial. He said he met with the Innovia Foundation for a primer on how grantors review grant applications and the specific issues that make a grant more favorable, such as project sustainability and

showing current income. Joe also provided a copy of "Time Will Tell," his writing reflecting on the upcoming bicentennial and our local heritage. The well-written piece will be in a forthcoming Silverado. There was discussion about The Spokane House, an interpretative center, and the challenges they have faced.

INDIAN AGENCY CABIN: Sue Richart reported on the Cabin. She said that in the spring, additional landscaping is required on the uneven ground outside the cabin.

RESEARCH UPDATES: Sue Richart reported on her ongoing project recording local censuses. The 1966 census records are incomplete, and she is seeking assistance from Eastern Washington University to fill in the gaps. She also requested assistance from the USPS historian's records at the National Achieves. Once completed, all records will go to Washington State Achieves and will be accessible online. Sue also reported on scanning and obstacles with lighting.

NORTHEAST WASHINGTON GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY: Susan Dechant reported that the Society was planning a full fall genealogy seminar next year, like the one they held this year which was well received. She said their next meeting is in January. She also reported that she is working on updating the out-of-print book; "Rich Heritage," about the Summit Valley area.

STEVENS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Sue Richart reported that the Christmas tour of the Keller house was just weeks away and that the decorating of the museum and Keller House was almost complete. She said they were advertising more this year based on feedback from last year. She also noted that the Colville Lodging Tax is increasing to recipients.

NORTHPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Rose Kalamarides reported that the drywall of the main floor of the Northport Welcome Center was almost complete.

CLAYTON/DEER PARK: Bill Sebright reviewed the photos and artwork he had earlier circulated. The artwork, by D.P. Leno shows several scenes on Deer Park's main street. The corresponding photographs show the artist's inspiration. He also extended thanks, on behalf of the CDPHS to the NEWGS for the files Susan Deschant sent. The files made it possible to widen their search function on their website (cdphs.org). Bill also discussed that their webmaster, Damon Smathers and Wally Parker, the former publications editor are putting out a shorter, simpler newsletter, *Letters, emails, Bouquets, and Brickbats.* It will be available only online.

TUM TUM: Lynn Wells, a member of the Friends of Spokane House reported on The Spokane House (FOSH). She said that at their October 2023 meeting, the Board voted to dissolve their 501(c)3 status. She said that State Parks Ranger, Paul Neddo, a supporter of FOSH, hopes the reenactors will continue in some form. The reenactors want to stay active for the public, but the demands by the Washington State Parks and the required paperwork are an obstacle that these few volunteers didn't feel like they can overcome. This fall they had only one request for school days. According to the Cooperating Association Agreement, the assets and monies will be surrendered to the SHIC (Spokane House Interpretive Center) for improving facilities at the Spokane House Historical Site. The President, Skip Kuch, thanked the membership and stated, "we will still be around but not called FOSH."

UPDATES: Susan Dechant shared a bank she recently purchased at a craft fair in Spokane. The bank has a vintage post office door with a combination lock, along with a coin imbedded in the top from the same year the post office door was made; 1906. The presentation of this beautiful craftsmanship was the top of the meeting, right before adjournment.

ADJOURNMENT: With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.