

## Rural Revival Minutes - November 27, 2023

### Freeman City Library

**Directors Present:** Brent Brockmueller, Philip Eisenbeis, Beth Kaufman, S. Roy Kaufman, Dennis Lehmann, Dennis Jurkovich

**Directors Absent:** Lillie Eisenbeis, Dee Millar

**Members Present:** Tim Eisenbeis, Andre Eisenbeis

**Members Present via Zoom:** Glen Wollman, Megan EisenVos

**Minutes:** The Minutes of the September 25, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve by Dennis L, seconded by Philip, passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance \$7,464.20. One land payment for this year was received.

#### **Committees:**

##### Land Trust/Access

Roy will contact Austin about how it is going. We agreed that Roy, Lyle and Tim will visit area rural churches to discuss land access. They will bring a draft letter to the churches to the next meeting then set up the meetings with the churches.

##### Local Foods:

Farmer's Market – had a good season with improved product diversity compared to other years. There were 18 vendors. Sales suffered somewhat because of the move away from highway 81 but are improving. Four homeschooling families were involved. Five children were selling. An appreciation meal was held for vendors and musicians at the South Church. May want to put on a meal of local food again or a raffle for a basket of veggies or something for children. We are paying for advertising in the Area Wide. Is this a good use of funds? The joint event with FCDC did improve sales.

##### South Dakota Local Foods Conference:

Megan, Lillie and Andre attended. Nick Olson from Minnesota Land Stewardship was a keynote speaker. Maybe we could get him come to Freeman in the future.

##### Education:

Tim was featured in the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Freeman Courier. Beth will interview the Ortman's of Berrybrook Farm and write an article about them in the Courier. Dennis L will invite Austin to present at the next meeting.

Brent suggested we ask someone from Center for Rural Affairs to speak about what they do at a future meeting, maybe via Zoom.

## **Rural Revival Minutes - November 27, 2023**

### **Freeman City Library**

Roy's future Courier articles will focus on the 150 year history of Europeans moving to this area.

#### **Review of Special Gathering Held on October 29:**

We agreed that the meeting was good and very useful. It provoked thoughts of "what do we do from here?". We need to work on prioritizing a list of "to do's". What is within our scope and limits of our energy and time? What is our direction?

Can we recruit, solicit interest from others in the community to join us?

We should plan a community visioning process to engage more people, clarify Rural Revival nature, build awareness of RR in community leaders.

#### **The next meeting will be on January 22nd**

To facilitate a quick meeting please send committee reports ahead of time via email. The goal is to spend the majority of the meeting on RR visioning.

#### **Adjournment:**

Beth moved and seconded by Andre, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Dennis Jurkovich, Secretary