

# Fridley Historical Society (FHS) Board Meeting Minutes

## April 3, 2025

Topic	Minutes		
Members Present	In attendance: Rachel Westhoff, Pat Barrett, Dorothy Gargaro, Rob Zelenak, Al Taylor, Mary Ann Hoffman, Mary Sue Meyers, and Mark Bonesteel		
Calendar of Events	May 3 (Saturday)	Open House	11 AM – 3 PM
	October (Saturday)	Pasta Dinner Fundraiser	Time TBA
Secretary's Report	unavailable		
Financial Summary Report	Dave Linton on vacation, not available		
Early Fridley History Grant Update	Mary Ann Hoffman shared that she is writing up the draft of the grant for phase 2, which is due in July 2025. Steve Boyd Smith has taken on writing a part of the grant Mary Ann cannot do. This part will be asking for \$70k. The exhibit will be either in the east upstairs classroom area or downstairs. It's possible that some of the existing artifacts in the east upstairs classroom can be incorporated into the exhibit.		
Fall Fundraising Update for our Annual Pasta Dinner	Al Taylor and the fundraising committee have started planning the October 4, 2025 event. This marks FHS's 33rd anniversary of putting on the fundraiser, which will take place at the fellowship hall at the Fridley Community Center. The rental rate is currently being negotiated. The menu has changed from lasagna to pasta, and it has been decided that volunteers who work at the event will eat free of charge. There was discussion about how many silent auction items will be offered and other new ideas to elicit interest. Al suggested that any FHS member looking to get rid of unused gift cards may donate them to FHS. The donated gift cards will be eligible for a tax deduction and will be repurposed as raffle items at the fundraiser. He suggested that this be added to our next newsletter. Committee members are Al Taylor, John Fitzpatrick, Mary Sue Meyers, Mark Bonesteel, and Lori Greiner.		
Archives, Exhibits, and Communications Update	Rob Zelenak shared that the FHS YouTube channel now has 28 videos uploaded. The time capsule will be sealed on May 3, 2025. Rob and Al will drive Rob's vehicle in the upcoming Fridley 49er Days parade on June 12. Mark Bonesteel shared that FHS will have a tent at Common's Park during the '49er Days from 2:00 - 6:00 p.m. on June 14, 2025.		
Newsletter Update	The next newsletter will be sent out early June. The content deadline for the June newsletter will be May 16. A special recognition for members who donated to the elevator fund will also be included in the next newsletter.		

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Maintenance Update and Construction Review	The fire exit light needs to be changed out and that the back basement door's bottom area is being fixed. Tom Gamms continues working on the trim work for the elevator and he has put in 30 hours of work so far. The west basement wall has been painted a charming light blue gray. The Buzz's Barbershop sign has been hung. For the new elevator to be ADA compliant, a new phone line will need to be installed, along with lights by the elevator shaft. Some highlights of the new elevator: hydraulic (so much quieter) and wider doors. A full museum clean-up is planned before the May 3 opening. Due to the large amount of construction dust, the Board suggested having the vents cleaned. It was discovered that the outside drain vent clean out top (sewer vent pipe) is loose. It is suspected that the school lawnmower hit it again. FHS will contact the school to discuss the situation.
May 3, 2025 Open House Discussion	The rundown of events was discussed. Mary Sue Meyers will bring cookies.
ETC 33 Discussion	Mark Bonesteel reminded the Board that a documentary will be made about ETC 33 and that all the DVDs will be gone through. ETC 33 will give FHS admin rights to their YouTube channel.
Open Forum	The museum will not be participating in the Fridley city-wide garage sale.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Submitted by Rachel Westhoff, Newsletter Chair