

Partner City Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2018

Harmon Conference Room, 1101 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas

Attendance: Vern Wirka, Liz Beikmann, Ed Klimek, Barry Michie, Karen Wirka, Jan Janasek, Dave Fiser, Ron Janasek, Mary Ann Buhler, Sara Vytlacil, and Cheryl Collins. Staff: Gary Fees.

At 4:05 p.m., Chair Vern Wirka called the meeting to order.

Wirka welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

After discussion, Beikmann moved to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2018, meeting. Wirka seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Czech Slavnosti July/August 2018 newspaper was highlighted with several articles of interest. There was also discussion regarding several upcoming events associated with the Czech festivals in Wilson, Kansas and Wilbur, Nebraska in July and August 2018.

Buhler provided an update on Glen Lojka and a card was distributed for signatures.

Michie introduced Cheryl Collins, Director, Riley County Historical Museum, and provided a brief bio about her and welcomed her to the Partner City meeting.

Collins presented information on Czechs in Riley County. She highlighted the Czech – Moravian Cemetery located in northern Riley County. She stated the Cemetery is located east of Toburen Road about two miles off Highway 77 from Randolph. She said the Czech Presbyterian Church is located in Marshall County, but the Cemetery is in Riley County. She provided information on the early Czech and Bohemian families that settled in Riley County and included the families of the Pishny, Kratochvil, Skala, and Smerchek family as well as others. She also provided a 1881 plat map and 1909 map of Riley County and the general area of the Czech settlement.

Fiser presented a genealogical review of the David Joe Fiser family. He provided a brief history of his grandparents, Grandfather Joseph Fiser, and said that it would take them four days to travel by ox from Mundon to Waterville. He distributed a genealogical review book with information and photographs of the Fiser family.

Everyone thanked Cheryl Collins for her informative presentation.

Wirka stated that the next Partner City meeting would be Wednesday, September 5, 2018, at 4:00 p.m., in the Harmon Conference Room, at City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.