Kendallville Heritage Association

Meeting Minutes 8/13/2026

Members present: Ann Butterfield, Terry Housholder, Sonya Hurst, Tom Jansen, Jill Jollief, Michael Mapes, Jim Swartzlander.

All artifacts and historical items have been moved to the Presbyterian Church for storage. The process of organizing the materials has started and should make it easier for retrieval, research, and cataloguing. We need someone to write a grant for archival supplies to help with the process. It would also help to come up with a schedule for dates other than our monthly meeting nights to work on the project. Once completed, we will be able to determine what to keep, delete, or sell in the future. Jim suggested that we photograph and document any items that we don't keep.

Jill brought an updated membership listing. It was suggested that we need to keep this list current and stop sending newsletters to those who did not renew their membership. Ann asked Jill to make separate lists for current and unpaid memberships and bring it to the next meeting. Terry suggested that we could ask the secretary to send out an email to remind those who have not yet renewed their membership.

Amanda Blackman created an art bench for the Historic Downtown Kendallville auction on behalf of KHA. The bidding is online this year and ends 8/31/2026. Amanda's bench had a high bid of $60.00 on the date of the meeting but has since sold for $70.00.

Jim gave a review of the George Wyman event held on July 27th. He was very pleased with how it turned out and thanked those who helped with the event, including KHA, Nicole from the Chamber of Commerce, and Brent Donat from Kendallville Powersports. The attendance was estimated to be between 100 – 200 people. There were 40+ motorcycles in the Bike Show and 25-30 riders who participated in the ride from Goshen to Kendallville. Three signs are now

in the area: a bronze marker in Wawaka, a sign at Kendallville Powersports, and a sign at the Splash n' Dash in downtown Kendallville.

Copies of Michael Mapes' first book of Kendallville postcards is available at Carla's antique store in downtown Kendallville. Michael also has copies available.

Jim is continuing to work on oral histories, which will be posted on the KHA website.

Ann noted that at the next meeting in September, we need to review our bylaws and change officers.