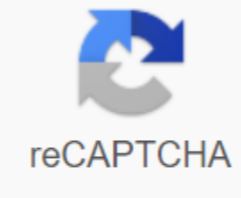




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Le sueur county historical society meeting

On Saturday, I tried to cover the annual meeting of the Le Sueur County Historical Society as the newspaper has done in the past. As expected, I was denied entry into the meeting room at Cleveland City Hall. I was asked to leave, and sometimes, I felt threatened like I was going to be escorted out of a public building. In accordance with its rules, the Board of Directors reserves the right to acquit any director, ofi sir, guests, a member of the media or an audience member who demonstrates an undignient or disruptive meeting process and that the President/President has been the author. exclude non-members. What they did was not illegal. That was wrong. The county's historical community, which excludes people? This is wrong. It didn't sound right and didn't sound right for years. In 2013 Jim Hansen, who was interested in preserving the county's history, was denied membership because of a lawsuit that claimed it was a fraud. The lawsuit was eventually dismissed in November 2012, and the current board was considered the true board of historical society. I applied on 28 April 2014. Check status on 7 November 2014, 17 and again on 9 March 2015 - all this has not been received. Considering I was ruled-out from the annual meeting, it's safe to assume the board never accepted my application. However, this is how the company has drafted its by-laws that states membership will be open to anyone with an interest in Le Sueur County's history, supporting the mission and purpose of the organization and paying annual fees. You need to make out the application. However, the Board of Directors reviews and approves/denies the acceptance. Former District Commissioner Bill Stangler called the move capricious. I accepted the refusal to cover the meeting on Saturday, and instead waited outside to talk to the people who left early. I figured former President Jenifer Morsching (she wasn't re-elected) or coordinator Kathy Burns could keep me out of the meeting, but they couldn't stop me from talking to people after the meeting. When the sheriff's deputy told the people to leave at 12:00. Some who left early couldn't make bickering and yelling. They called the behavior unprofessional as a two-year-old's. For those who stuck it out by the end, some laughed at the absurdity of the last three hours, while others were angry. Many gathered on the street to uncompress. The street scene wasn't quite either. Burns was taking photos of people talking. People took pictures of her. This is not how the county's historical community should operate, and unless change happens, things won't change. That is counties and those who care about history. Hopefully the change will happen signed on Saturday by a petition signed by a majority of members. The meeting, which Stangler assured me will be open, is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, Cleveland City Hall, 7 le Sueur County Historical Society (LCHS) began a new chapter on Monday. After a year-long lawsuit in which more than a dozen plaintiffs asked the judge to force transparency, fair elections and public book review, a new board of directors was elected. Nomination committee put together a list of candidates, and the following people were officially elected: One-year term - Bryce Stenzel, Mike Frederick, George Luskey, Richard Bennett; two-year term - William Stangler, Dean Pettis, Lois Mack, Bonnie Reak and Ruth Collins. After the meeting, the Board elected Stangler as president, Pettis as vice president. Collins as secretary and Reak as treasurer. Evelyn Fierst, the only remaining member of the previous board, quit her position. Board member Jenifer Morsching was voted in 2017, but maintained his position on the rules until new officials were elected. A third board member, Donna Morsching, also held her position until Monday. The action culminates in a rancorous relationship between the plaintiffs and the previous LCHS management, which eventually led a Le Sueur County judge to appoint Robert T. Kugler of the Minneapolis law firm Stinson Leonard Street LLP as receiver to take control of the company, which was not following his orders. Kugler called the meeting and election a new start for the LCHS. He congratulated members on the great artifacts and buildings at its disposal, but he warned that everyone must get involved to move the community forward and help cataloguing artifacts, inventory everything, and performing building repairs. He also said that the previous three board members had done a tremendous job. I urge everyone to continue to participate. It's going to take a lot of hands, he said. Learn more in the print edition. The museum is currently closed for renovation. The mission of the Le Sueur County Historical Society is to collect, save and tell the story of Le Sueur. It is able to accomplish this mission through a collective historical site, research center, exhibits, educational program and artifact collections. The museum is located in the old Allison public school, and was converted into a museum in 1965; two years later it will be put on the National Historic Places. Contact: Mailing Address: P.O. Box 123, Le Center, MN 56057 Phone: 507-267-4091 Email: info@lesueurcountyhistory.org Eur County Historical Society Museum: Site Address: 301 Second St. NE, Elysian, MN 56028 Phone: 507-267-4620 Hours: May, September-October Saturdays and Sundays: 1:00-17:00 June - August Wednesday-Sunday: 1:00-15:00 Admission: Free Le Sueur County Historical