

The Friends of the Carnegie Library Newsletter

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January 2015



Message from the President

by Sue Liapis

Welcome to our first newsletter for “Friends of the Carnegie”! We are so enthusiastic about this project and thankful for the hundreds of people who have supported preserving this historic building with time and dollars. Without all of you, we would not be entering an exciting phase in the project – the hiring of Widseth, Smith & Nolting, an architectural firm here in Bemidji to do the design and budget phase. When the design element is completed, we will have architectural drawings, schematics and bid documents ready for the actual moving and preservation of the building.



Photograph by Waldo Wattles
Circa 1940

This beautiful Carnegie building located on Lake Bemidji, oversees our historic downtown. The downtown revitalization project took place in 1984. This created a thriving marketable downtown where “old” buildings were renewed, repurposed and gave a new life to our City. The Carnegie is the queen gem of our city’s downtown. She is

our grand old lady, poised and ready to be moved back 17 feet in order to provide a proper front lawn and to revitalize her as she historically was meant to be. She needs to have an addition which will allow her to have ADA handicapped accessibility, she needs to have

clean, modern bathrooms and be refurbished to her original glory. The Carnegie will make a perfect venue for public events and a lower level that will be rented in order to provide sustainability and not put an extra burden on the taxpayers. We, the citizens of Bemidji and the surrounding area, need the Carnegie to help keep OUR history alive and be a reminder of our city’s substance.

Please consider donating to this cause. The “Friends of the Carnegie” are at approximately the halfway mark, and desperately need your contributions to complete our mission, to preserve and restore the Carnegie!

Thank you from the entire committee who has worked so hard to keep this project moving forward.

Board of Directors

Sue Liapis, President
Sandy Kaul, Vice President
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Mission Statement

To Preserve and Restore the
Historic Carnegie Library

To receive future Newsletters
via e-mail, please send a
message to:

carnegie@ci.bemidji.mn.us

Send Donations To:

NW Minnesota Foundation -
Carnegie Fund
201 3rd Street NW
Bemidji, MN 56601
OR on-line at
www.savethecarnegie.org



Treasurer’s Report as of December 31, 2014

by Cathy Marchand

Contributions & Pledges

Community Donations/Pledges	\$ 90,900
Andreas & Marilyn Kuhn	\$150,000
Grants*	\$380,000
City of Bemidji	\$100,000
Minnesota State Legacy Grant	\$ 50,000
Total	\$770,900

Expenditures

Archeological Study	\$20,000
Condition Assessment	\$11,000
Fundraiser Salary	\$24,000
Other expenses*	\$ 3,400
Total	\$58,400

*Joseph & Janice Lueken Family Foundation,
G.W. Neilson, Carolyn F. Jacobs Culture &
Humanity Fund, Beltrami County

*Postage, graphic design & printing,
publicity, event costs, etc.



Thank you to all our generous contributors.
We sincerely appreciate your support!

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Publisher: \$299,999 - \$150,000

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Joseph & Janice Lueken Family Foundation
G.W. Neilson Foundation

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