

EATON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

The meeting was call to order by President Bill Haines at 6:33pm at the Eaton County Court House.

OLD BUSINESS:

Treasurer's report: Sher Brown reported invoices all paid and the Bake Sale was a success with a gross of \$1,243.21 and net figure \$1,081.09. Bill Haines mentioning donations were still coming in. Also the review of the treasurer's books will be done as soon as possible, Cindy Shearer had not responded and we my need another volunteer. Discussion held.

Shirley Hodges, Frontier Bake Sale Chairman reported that there will be a permanent file in the office pertaining to the basic needs and set up for the bake sale for future reference. Thank you Shirley and Clearance. Discussion held.

Membership Chairman, Barb Smith and Bill Haines talked about the non-membership renewal mailing and have decided to wait until November, due to the fact we are so close to renewal for regular members and do one mailing.

Policies and procedures and by-law up dates were tabled until next board meeting. Sherry Copenhaver mentioned that FGS would be able to give us help on tweaking them as needed. Bill Haines suggested we forward information to FGS for review. Sherry Copenhaver will look into it. Discussion held.

Bill Haines will pursue the rules for tax exempt and non profit rules with the State Department of Treasury. The State only grants non profit status prior to 1994 and you are required to ask and get a written response, if we do not ask we will be out. Also if the cost to pursue this is prohibitive the consensus was not to pursue.

Cookbook project, Shirley Hodges is still in need of recipes and hoping to have it completed by September of next year.

The trifold ECGS brochure is waiting for some material before it can be finished. Bill Haines and Bill Atkinson will be taking care of it. Discussion held.

Bill Atkinson brought up the possibility of a copy right issue with our new logo and when it can be used without infringement. Our shirts should be ok.

Bill Haines reported that we will be getting a price quote for our shirts and will be sending that information to the board by e-mail.

Sherry Copenhaver mentioned that the web site guest book is out dated and needs to be revised, which everyone agreed should be done. Sherry will take care of it. Thank you!

Bill Haines reported that the video projector has been purchased and one issue came up on our tax exempt status and whether to send in the paper work. The projector was purchased from Office Max and we need to either pay the tax or file for tax exempt status. At this point the tax has not been paid. Discussion held.

Motion made by Bill Atkinson that \$530.00 which includes sales tax be authorized to pay for projector, seconded by Sherry Copenhaver, motion passed.

Bill Atkinson mentioned the need for an etching tool to mark our new projector.

Barb Smith mentioned the P.A. System we have and that the speakers are in the office and we may need to use it at meetings. Also discussed was the viewing screen and that some members are not able to see it clearly and we may need to adjust our location. Further discussion held.

The Heritage conference coming up on October 12th, Sher Brown reported on room availability and wanted to know if we wanted to make a walk through. Vending tables should be possible in the hall. Sher Brown will take care of finances for the luncheon and Sherry will have the Court House available. Our next board meeting is October 7 and we will meet at the First Congregation Church, 106 S. Bostwick at 6:30pm. To check things out.

Township Records, Marcie Cousino related she wanted to know the goals for preservation of records. There are 16 townships. Discussion held, and it was decided that anything they have that we can copy and return to them or give them a copy of, and find out where they are kept, and if they plan on keeping them or turning them in to the State of Michigan.

Marcie also reported that the vault humidifier is working and to check out the room. So much better. Question did arise about possible leakage on probate records below and the need to protect them.

Discussion held on the responsibilities of Publicity Chairman. Notices in Shopping Guide, press releases and volunteer for Quest. Sher Brown said she will take care of getting Quest to printer.

Sherry Copenhaver mentioned the need for a continued search for a new computer(hardware and software) or up dated one, maybe from MSU needs to be looked at. Shirley will talk to Julie and see what our options are.

NEW BUSINESS:

The need to separate responsibilities of Hospitality Chairman pertaining to room supplies and refreshments and the need for a separate person to handle the supplies for Frontier Days Bake Sale needs to be looked at.

We will need to refer to By-laws and or Policy and Procedures. Discussion held. It was mentioned that a three month shelf life for sodas is the max. Tabled until next meeting.

Snack and sodas for room, Marcie took a survey of what all workers and volunteers preferences were and the need to cut down on the variety.

Sher Brown reported on the over sized Charlotte Hight School photos of past senior classes. Sher will ask Lola Wilson to see if we can copy them. Bill Atkinson mentioned he could copy them before leaving for the winter.

There is a need for volunteers to cover time in the office during regular hours. Please contact office.

The need for a Mission Statement was mentioned. We used to have one and need to look for it. Tabled until next board meeting.

Federation of Genealogical Societies(FGS) workshop was attend by Gary and Sherry Copenhaver, Sherry reported on the technicalities of web sites, and our strengths, opportunities, threats, and a strategies survey on paper and on line to be done as soon as possible.

Bill Haines mentioned the need for all of us to brainstorm, and have a strategy meeting for our organizations long term goals and make a plan. Long discussion held and Sherry mentioned that FGS may have a person available to present a long range plan of action. Shirley Hodges and Bill Atkinson had some ideas of person who might help.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Janyce Shepler, Recording Secretary