

Board Meeting for February 13, 2016

The February 2016 board meeting was held at the Charlotte Big Boy on Saturday February 13th at 9:00am. Chuck Chamberlain, Marcy Cousino, Dianna Emerson, Sherry Copenhaver, Sher Brown, John Evans & Shirley Hodges attended.

The January 2016 minutes: Shirley moved to accept the minutes and Sher seconded. Motion passed.

The Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Treasurer reports were distributed for December 31, 2015. Shirley moved to accept the Treasurer report and Dianna seconded. Motion passed.

Dianna distributed an updated list of board members and states we now have 99 members, which includes 3 new members. Dianna is ready to mail members their membership cards and letters with the new password. We decided on the new password and we will make the change on February 20th, 2016.

Barb has boxes of membership papers from when she first began as the membership secretary and she had asked Dianna if she wanted the boxes. Dianna does not want them. After some discussion, we decided Dianna would ask Barb to bring them to ECGS. Shirley and Sher will look through these and decide what can be discarded. Sherry suggested anything they would like to keep for historical purposes could be scanned, and the paper discarded.

The Writing Group will resume meetings in May 2016. They will be held on the 2nd Saturdays from 10am - Noon at the 1885 Courthouse in the ECGS Room.

Saturday research days will resume on the 4th Saturdays of the month, beginning with Saturday, February 27th, from 10am - 2pm. John will work on a flyer for this so we can have something to publish and also physically distribute to various places.

Sherry volunteered Gary to inquire with the Eaton County Fair Board about renting a space under the grandstands. (Note: Gary agreed to do this.)

We will try asking the for volunteers at the general meetings for refreshments. Dianna will make a sign-up sheet.

Digitizing Microfilm - This is a potential large project that includes first seeing what we have in newspaper microfilms to convert and checking other things such as if they have already been digitized or is anyone else willing to digitize for free. Then, ideally, we would reach out to all of the area Eaton County societies and see what they have and see if they are interested in joining us in this project. If they are, we could all work together in funding the conversion to searchable files and make them available to all who participate. Sherry said she is happy to work on this project if she can get help and Marcy volunteered. The first step is to come up with our plan of attack. Sherry will be meeting with the Eaton County Historical Commission on March 1st about this project because they are expecting to receive a grant request from us for this purpose. The conversion proposal we received from MOS estimated \$7300 for 90 rolls of film. This is an ESTIMATE!!! Sherry has samples from three of our microfilms that have been converted.

John has purchased 2016 Microsoft Office with 5 licenses for all of our computers. They are not installed yet.

Chuck suggested we look at the By-laws that define when we need to have Committee Chair Persons. We will need to review these by the next board meeting to be able to discuss this issue.

Sherry & Gary are attending the Lansing District Library Conference on March 12th and we will have a table to display our pamphlets, flyers, etc. and not only that, but to sell our Cemetery Symbols Project cd and the Rural School Project book.

We had a discussion about Library memberships and access to Members Section on the website. Further discussion needed.

Library and other society and organization email lists for our newsletter: Dianna is open to sending out our newsletter to other organizations in addition to our ECGS lists.

The board members who were present are all willing to use the online software Trello as an organization tool.

Sherry will create a new Project Board on Trello to replace the Word and Excel work documents we have been using since we had the work shop in 2013 for our society project and goals. This new board has been created and is called 'Strategic Planning'. Sherry will convert all of the things we need and/or want to work on in the future that were in these documents to this board.

Still needs follow-up:

AT&T charges for Uverse is going up and Kent will look at ACD.net and WOW to see if we can get a lower phone and internet rate.

Kent said Big Boy has some different options and he will check with the corporate office to see what they are and we can decide if we can do this.

Digitize our publications and see about selling them on other venues such as ebay.

Use Pay Pal for purchases.

Get keys to building, office and post office from resigning officer.

Status of March speaker and refreshments.

We held a brief discussion about requesting the general public for photos to scan and we know we would like to collect what we can. We will need to put some more research into this.