

## **ECGS BOARD MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 13, 2016**

The April meeting for the Eaton County Genealogical Society Board was called to order by the President, Charles W. Chamberlain, at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Chuck Chamberlain, President; Marcy Cousino, Corresponding Secretary; Doug Emerson, Member; Dianna Emerson, Membership Secretary; Sher Brown, Treasurer; Shirley Hodges, Trustee; Sherry Copenhaver, Trustee; Sue Thompson, Member; John Evans, Computer Chair; and Liz Jones, Trustee.

The minutes from the March 9, 2016, Board meeting were approved as written. Motion to approve by Shirley Hodges and supported by Sher Brown. The motion passed unanimously.

Sher Brown presented the Treasurer's Report in written and verbal form. Recent payments were insurance (\$558), postage (\$14.70) to Membership Secretary, Dianna Emerson, and \$47.52 made payable to Charlotte Lithograph for printing that Marcy Cousino took there.

Also, discussed was the progress in re-establishing the LAFCU bank account for PayPal transactions. Sher Brown will set up a debit/credit card account. Afterwards Sher will contact Chuck Chamberlain, who is working on this with PayPal to get the accounts connected. This action will allow purchases to be made with our PayPal account through LAFCU. The Board approves of this action. Motion made by Liz Jones to approve and supported by Sher Brown. The motion passed unanimously.

The Membership Secretary reports the group currently has 125 members for the 2016 calendar year. In 2015 there were a total of 130 members.

Marcy Cousino discussed different internet and phone options that Julie Kimmer is researching for the building. The cost from the various companies (ACD Net, DSL, WOW, AT&T) were discussed. More information is needed.

Refreshments for the regular ECGS meetings were discussed. Dianna Emerson stated she had a sign-up sheet for the 2016 meetings. Several slots remain open. If no one signs up, there will not be any food provided for those months.

Becky Kendall, a previous ECGS member, would like to be the Hospitality Hostess at meetings. She would greet members and non-members prior to the meetings. Previously the group had a Hospitality person who was the Greeter, made sure new visitor(s) signed in a special book, and also mailed out cards to members when appropriate for special circumstances.

John Evans, Computer Chair, stated he would be stopping by the genealogy room on Thursday, April 14, 2016, to work on the computer system.

Sherry Copenhaver reports the door knob to the ECGS Room and Plexiglass have both been fixed and the lock is working well. (Actually, Shar Thuma told me the next day the glass was replaced.)

Marcy Cousino and Sue Thompson report the proposed digitizing of microfilm project has been eagerly received by the Bellevue Historical Society as well with Potterville, Olivet College, Sunfield Historical Society, and Vermontville. The Courthouse Square Association will be the umbrella for the 501 (3c).

Work will be done for the first grant with the Eaton County Historical Commission. Tom Moore, archivist and member of the Delta Township Historical Society, is very excited about the project and is very eager to help.

Marcy Cousino went to a grant writing seminar presented by the Historical Society of Michigan. The Society started in 1828 when Michigan was a territory. The Society provides educational outreach, conferences, workshops, publications, and services for local historical organizations. They have no collections of their own.

Chuck Chamberlain presented a change to the ECGS By-laws. After a group discussion the following changes are recommended regarding the order of business for all meetings. The proposed amendment of Article XIII Order of Business: 1) The order of business of all meetings shall be at the discretion of the Board of Directors. 2) Election of officers will be held annually at the November membership meeting. 3) All meetings shall be conducted according to parliamentary procedure. This change will be presented to the membership at the April 20, 2016, meeting with votes casted at the May 18, 2016 meeting. Motion by Chuck Chamberlain, supported by Sher Brown, and seconded by Liz Jones.

Sherry Copenhaver discussed the option of selling ECGS publications on EBay. A woman had expressed interest in doing that for the ECGS and she would earn a fee for her service. She later changed her mind because she does not want to use her own bank account for the sale of items. This topic may be discussed again at a later date.

The same woman was interested in completing the Pray Funeral Home Indexing project. She figured the job would take 15 hours at \$10 per hour for a total of \$150. Part One of the project was already been finished and someone is needed to complete Part Two. There are issues with cross referencing in the database. Liz Jones expressed interest in completing Part Two. Sherry Copenhaver brought examples of the project to the meeting table.

Shirley Hodges spoke about the Annual Frontier Days Bake Sale. The sale has been going on since about 1990 and the funds are used for the ECGS annual rent and insurance. One person has provided 45% of the items to be sold and this year that person will no longer be donating all of those bakery items, however, the person wishes to continue helping during the sale. People will need to step up and provide items for this fundraiser as it is a significant fundraiser for the ECGS.

Chuck Chamberlain stated he would like to have the Pledge of Allegiance recited at the beginning of each regular meeting of the ECGS. He will double check with Julie Kimmer to see if there is a flag and flag stand in storage for use at the ECGS meetings. Two members expressed they would not be able to participate in this at the meetings.

The speaker for the April 20th meeting will be Shirley Hodges. During the social hour the topic will be "Computer Tips" and possibly a short slide show of ECGS pictures of members past and present. "Computers and Genealogy" will be the main presentation at 7 p.m. Chuck Chamberlain and Shirley Hodges stated the Publicity Chairperson, Joy Black, needs to have information regarding programs and speakers given to her 18 days in advance of each meeting.

The ECGS Board of Directors meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dianna Emerson