

EATON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 2, 2016

PRESENT: Chuck Chamberlain, Kent MacDonald, Dianna Emerson, Marcy Cousino,
John Evans, Sherry Copenhaver, Shirley Hodges, Liz Jones

ABSENT: Sher Brown, Sharleen Thuma

The meeting was called to order at 6.30 p.m. by the President, Chuck Chamberlain.

Judy Chamberlain was asked to be the recording secretary for the meeting.

REPORTS:

- Marcy Cousino, Newspaper Digitizing – Twelve more rolls are ready to be sent out for digitizing. That will make 85 done. They will know the results on the grant application in mid November.
- Sher Brown, Treasurer: She was unable to attend but sent a note that there were no changes from the reports last month as she had not received the October bank statements.
 1. Budget – The revised budget will be voted on by the members at the November 9, 2016, meeting.

A motion was made by Shirley Hodges, seconded by Liz Jones that the report be accepted as read. Motion passed.
- The minutes from the October 12, 2016, board meeting had been sent out to the members. There were two corrections made and the corrected minutes emailed. Motion by Liz Jones, second by Shirley Hodges that the corrected minutes be accepted. Motion passed.
- Dianna Emerson, Membership – One new member as of this date. That makes 145 paid memberships plus memberships that have been provided for speakers with a total of 165 members which includes spouses of members.
- John Evans, Technology – He hopes to have the new WIFI router in place soon as well as the new program to replace the "cloud". This program will be the backup for not only the "cloud" but also will be used for local backups. Sherry stated she needs a digital copy of the current by-law changes. The website should have the most recent backup of this.
- Liz Jones, Nominating Committee – The new nominations for office are: Judy Chamberlain, Recording Secretary; Becky Kendall, Trustee; and Marijo Wakely, Historian. These nominations as well continuing officers will be presented by the Nominating Committee at the November 9, 2016, meeting for the approval.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Bus trip in November – Fifty-four seats have been sold; there are 58 seats available on the bus. There will be five people going from Coldwater in addition to the ones from Marshall and Charlotte.
- Pay Pal Account – Chuck applied for the credit card, but had to use his own personal information from his account in order to set it up as the Society has no credit record. Supposedly he will be able to delete his information from the account once the card is received.

NEW BUSINESS:

- There was a discussion regarding the term of office and changes that could be made. Right now, according to the by-laws, the officers are elected for a one-year term except for the trustees who are elected one each year for a three-year term. What is a reasonable term of office? Could the offices be staggered so all of them are not elected each year? Kent suggested that this issue be tabled for now and that we check with other organizations as to how they do elections.
- Programming for 2017 – Some suggestions were as follows:
 - Do a simple seminar "Who Do You Think You Are" type of program using the ECGS databases, etc.
 - 2017 is the 100th anniversary of World War I
 - Personal stories from members (these could also be put in the newsletter)
- Fund Raising Ideas – Kent suggested doing a day-long seminar and wondered if this would work. The Society had done this in the past, but there were not enough volunteers in later years. Shirley

stated that the last two seminars at which she spoke did not have a lot of people there. If this is done, the speaker(s) need to be someone from outside the area rather than someone within the local/state area. Any of these types of seminars need to be planned at least a year in advance.

- There was discussion on various ideas. Dianna spoke about one she had done in Sunfield. Other ideas need to be discussed regarding outreach. Shirley stated the National conference is in Michigan in 2018.
- It was suggested that the people who are to be in charge of different programs, such as Frontier Days and the Bus Trip, be selected at the first of the year so we are not trying to figure out who is on committees at the last minute.
- Bake Sale – Dianna stated she had done a review of the procedures that Shirley had provided and had some questions. She provided a copy of the Michigan Cottage Law and wondered if this applied to the bake sale. Kent will check with a food inspector regarding this. It was suggested that the baked goods have a minimum selling price of \$1.00 and that there only be one size of coffee made available for sale. Chuck wondered if it would be feasible to buy a Keurig coffee maker to use for Frontier Days. It was decided this would not work very well. NOTE: Probably do need a new coffee maker as the one that has been used was leaking.
- Sherry asked what happens to the extra copies of notes that the speakers provide. No one seemed to know. There needs to be a place for a list of the speakers, when they spoke and a copy of the notes, possibly kept in a notebook. It was suggested that the speakers be asked to provide a digital copy of their notes (a lot of them already do this—just need to get them together and put in a notebook).
- There needs to be another volunteer training done as well as another organization workday for the library.
- Sherry needs articles for the newsletter. Chuck asked when the articles were due. She sends out a notice on the 20th of the month to remind people that she needs them. She will accept them and include them up until the newsletter is ready for print, provided they are in a format that can be easily inserted into the space available.
- Sherry also asked that people review the website for things that need to be updated.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Volunteer Appreciation Day – since there was not enough time to plan this for this year, it was suggested that since National Volunteer Appreciation week is in April that we plan for this each year during this time. The suggestion was for April 29, 2017.
- Kent plans to show the seconded video of the "Discovering Your Roots" by Professor John Phillip Colletta at the November 9, 2016, meeting at 6:00.
- The program for the November 9, 2016, meeting by Jeff Mason is entitled "Treasures of Lancaster and York Counties, PA. He will need access to the Internet. Chuck now has the information for the password and network access. Sher Brown had signed up to bring refreshments, but there was a question as to whether she will be able to do this now. Dianna will check with her.
- Shirley will be speaking on Wednesday, November 16, 2016, at the Mid-Michigan Genealogical Society meeting at Plymouth Congregational Church.

The next board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, at 6:30 p.m.

Motion made by Kent, seconded by Dianna that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Judy Chamberlain, Acting Recording Secretary.