

# Eaton County Genealogical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes

2018 March - Saturday, March 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order by president Chris Brown at 1:02pm. A quorum was met.

Present: Chris Brown, Jim Kendall, Sher Brown, Sherry Copenhaver, Becky Kendall, Shirley Hodges, John Evans, Sharlene Thuma.

Absent: Dianna Emerson, Marcy Cousino, Marijo Wakely, Liz Jones.

Visitors: None

## Reports of officers & committees

**Recording Secretary:** The minutes of February 24, 2018 were reviewed. A motion was made by Sher Brown to approve the board meeting minutes and seconded by Shirley Hodges. Motion was passed.

**Treasurer:** Sher Brown distributed a balance sheet as of February 28, 2018 and a detailed list of January-February-March (so far) checking account activity. The Balance sheet shows the monthly checking account and the two quarterly savings accounts until after the March balancing. *A note from Sher: There is a correction to be made. Sher will explain at the April board Meeting.* Sher is in the 5<sup>th</sup> out the 6<sup>th</sup> process of getting a credit card for ECGS to use for things such as our cloud backup service. We are the first non-profit organization to get this with Eaton Federal Savings Bank, which means they are going through a learning curve with us. When this is complete, and we have the credit card, Sherry can switch the website credit card from her personal account to our new ECGS credit card. Sherry Copenhaver moved to approve the Treasurer report and Shirley Hodges seconded. Motion passed.

**Membership Secretary:** Dianna Emerson was absent; No report.

**Trustees:** Shirley Hodges stated she has not contacted the person who gets our ECGS shirts yet. We talked about the possibility of getting "Eaton County Genealogical Society" on the back of the shirts as well. We want to get costs for both t-shirts and polo shirts. We have one size medium shirt that can be sold and Chris will let people know about this at the March meeting. Shirley's term will be up this year and she will think about whether she will re-run for the 2019 term.

**Vice-President:** Jim Kendall reported that our notice of the meeting has been in the County Journal for two weeks. We had a great article written by Travis Silvas and printed in the Eaton Rapids Flashes. Jim has Dan Earl scheduled to talk at the April meeting about DNA. He'll find out later about the exact material. We can try to do different subjects for the pre-meeting and meetings and we might get more people to both. See the separate "30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary" under New Business. Jim is talking to someone about talking to us about the newspapers collections. In

## Eaton County Genealogical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes

September or October, Shirley wants to use the pre-meeting to talk about researching at Allen County Library. Jim might have Jessica come in for a session where people could ask questions about DNA, rather than a talk. An example could be "How can I download my DNA?". If any of our Special Interest Groups take off, perhaps we could make short updates at our general meetings at times. We had a very lengthy discussion about possibly asking our presenters if we could publish their handouts (if they had printed materials) on a new page on our website. This could be a new Members Section page, or a new page for everyone. (Note: This discussion was in response to a survey response of 'it would be nice to have our speakers on you-tube....') We did not come to a conclusion whether to do this or not.

**President:** Chris Brown talked with Kent MacDonald at his work (Big Boy) and Kent says he will return the keys; possibly at March meeting. Chris gave Jim Kendall a list of speakers from MGC 2017.

- Dianna Emerson told Chris she may want to step down as MGC delegate. If she does, Shirley agreed she could take over for the remainder of the year.
- By Laws Change Vote: Sher Brown made a motion to change the By Laws to change the Librarian, Computer Chair and Historian to elected officers and to change the quorum from 6 to 7. Sherry Copenhaver seconded. Motion was passed. This By Laws change will be presented to the Membership at the General March Meeting.
- Chris is going to raffle off an Ancestry DNA kit at the March meeting he received free after purchasing four kits. The proceeds from the raffle will go to the Clarence Hodges Speaker fund.
- Discussion was held about when to hold future board meetings. The majority felt that the second Saturday of the month, at 1pm, was a good time to hold the board meetings. Our Writer's Group will also continue to be held from 10-Noon on these same days.

Motion was made by Shirley Hodges to approve President report and seconded by Becky Kendall. Motion was passed.

**Computer and technology:** John Evans loaded the Adobe Pro on the Librarian computer. Sherry Copenhaver thanked him for the Adobe Pro and told him she has used the features from this already. He will be removing Crash Plan cloud storage software and installing I-Drive software cloud storage.

**Historian:** Marijo Wakely was absent; No report.

**Librarian:** Sharlene Thuma is catching up and is using Trello software as an organization tool. She has begun a new section in Room 1 titled "Latest Additions", based on a suggestion from Phyllis Whidden.

# Eaton County Genealogical Society Executive Board Meeting Minutes

## Old Business

**Training:** Two training sessions were held by Sherry Copenhaver in February and covered Trello (on the computer) and Room Volunteer training; Sherry is unsure if others want to take this training. Sherry sent out written training documentation and perhaps people could read these documents and see if more details to this documentation would be helpful.

In the meantime, Sherry has created a set of four about 45-minute potential training sessions that could be set up in the near future for the general public that covers what we have in our library. We have a paper with the four sessions described. This paper has boxes for people to indicate which classes they are interested in. This paper can be sent around at the meeting, then can be used to determine which classes to set up first. Some comments were made to revise the form, and Chris will send the revised form around at the meeting to see what the interest is in these sessions. Sherry will then set these up and notify people by Facebook and by our website when they will take place. (See attached form.) We want to give credit to the people taking the survey for this.

**WWI Project:** We have an initial list of things that people can do to help get this project started, and we have a few people who have already begun working on the project and these include Don & Eva Cooper from Grand Ledge, Phyllis Whidden and Skinner Funeral Home in Eaton Rapids.

## New Business

**ECGS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:** It is our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we would like to do something. We formed in April of 1988 and our first meeting was in May. We talked about different things - such as a pot luck and inviting past presidents and doing an article. It's probably too soon to do this in May, so we can do this anytime this year, and make it the entire program. This will give us time to gather old photos and history for the program, as well as contact old members.

A motion was made by Sher Brown that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Shirley Hodges. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at about 2:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: Saturday, April 14, 2018, at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Copenhaver, Recording Secretary