

## Minnesota Genealogical Society

Board Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, March 23, 2002  
MGS Library

Present: John Mercer, Eugene Menzel, David Cross, Jim Robasse, Paula Goblirsch, Mary Swanson, Sharon Babcock, Dixie Hansen, Harold Hinds, Gerry Stifter, Jean Jensen, Darlene Joyce, Wes Waring, Linda Balk

John Mercer called the meeting to order at 9:35.

Jim Robasse gave a presentation of his web redesign. There was discussion on the different pages. One of the pages "The Surname Research List" needs to be addressed later as to what should be placed on the page. Another suggestion was a page with a picture and a map of the library.

Linda Balk handed out the minutes from the January 19, 2002 meeting. She also handed out all the action items and motions from 1998 – 2001 for the board members information. John Mercer suggested putting these on colored paper and she will do this before the next meeting. She also passed around the latest Board Member list for any corrections. Harold Hinds moved to accept the minutes as read. Gerry Stifter seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

Eugene Menzel gave the treasurer's report. We closed out the year on a positive note. Gene also presented good news. MGS is a benefactor in the Gladys Henslin estate. MGS is to receive one quarter of the estate. We decided that we need to think of some guidelines for distribution of the proceeds from the estate and that it should be left for the executive committee. We need to recognize her in our publications. We are very grateful for the contribution. Gene is representing MGS during the probation period. It will possible the end of the year before we see the proceeds.

### **President's report:**

The 2003 calendar was presented for review and approval. Darlene wanted to note the Lynn Besch and Darlene were working with the Loft to hold a meeting, either in June or July of 2003.

The Privacy Statement was reviewed and revised to read: **The Minnesota Genealogical Society does not sell or trade its membership roster with any organization. Member mailing addresses and/or email addresses are used by MGS only for genealogical communication.** Gene moved to accept the privacy statement. Gerry seconded the motion. The motion was carried. This will appear in the next newsletter.

### **Committee Reports:**

Building Committee: No Report. Erv was called out of town for a funeral.

Library: Jean Jensen reported that Dorothy Chandler has been hospitalized with pneumonia. Jean has the calendar for the time being. It was brought up that it would be nice to have a map of where the collections were in the library. Linda has been making a rough map for her own use. She will refine the map and bring it to the next executive committee meeting.

MGS Fund Drive Letter: Gerry Stifter and David Cross will meet after the meeting to draft a letter for the fund drive.

Cemetery: Darlene reported that there are two counties done, Scott and Ramsey. Darlene passed around a good example of a cemetery transcription for the board to see. It is laminated and has been donated to the library. The Dalbys have about 510,000 names in the database. There is a meeting of the cemetery committee after the board meeting. It was mentioned that Darlene needs to prepare a proposal outlining the benefits, budget and copyright details for the board. Paula would also like an update of the project for the newsletter.

It was brought up at this time about the death of John White. John Mercer did mail a card from the board to Mrs. White. It was felt that it would be nice if each of the board members sent a card to Mrs. White. There will be a notice published in both the newsletter and the Journal.

Electric Cataloging Project: Jean mentioned that the Irish are working on their collection. The microfilm and microfiche has been done. The periodicals, flat maps, CD's and vertical files need to be entered. Jean will work on the CD's. The ECP is usable now with what is already in the database. The intent of this project is to be able to access this online. Paula will contact David for an update for the newsletter.

Correspondence Report: Mary Swanson presented her final report as corresponding secretary. The amount of letters has been declining over the last few years. She feels that this is so because of the amount of information being put on the Internet.

It was noted at this time that Darlene Joyce presented a talk to the joint Dakota County Genealogical and Historical Societies. There will be an article written in the St. Paul Pioneer Press. If anyone sees the article please cut it out and save for Darlene.

Membership: No report.

Program Committee: We still do not have a bill for the auditorium or rentals for the December meeting. The cost for the March meeting was up but not out of line. The attendance was under 200. Wes felt that this was due to the meeting being held earlier in the month than usual. Wes mentioned using the cafeteria instead of the auditorium to help hold down the price next year. We talked about checking out the Perpich Center for our next spring meeting. The Greater Minnesota Meeting will be at the Hinckley High School. There will be six breakout sessions in addition to the Keynote speaker. The September meeting will be at the Luther Seminary again. John mentioned that we should be thinking about what we would like for next year and to start planning. We should email Wes with our suggestions.

Publications: Minnesota Genealogist, no report, Erv was attending his brother's funeral.

Paula reported that the deadline for the next edition is April 1, 2002. There should be articles on the upcoming elections, reports on the committees and more board member bios. Paula said that she is requiring prepayment for adds in the future. They will bill for the outstanding payments.

We need a person for the State Fair Committee. Wes will help coordinate volunteers.

John presented an update on Project Growth. This is the first step of the process with approval of this step we can go on to determine how we are going to draw these groups. Harold moved to approve Project Growth. Dixie seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Nominating Committee: Tom is in charge of the nominating committee. We need to get nominations for the ballot. There are several openings. The ballots need to be sent out the end of May. The ballots will be counted the first of July.

There was a discussion about the directories for Minneapolis and St. Paul. There is a question about the directories being on microfilm. This is something for the library committee to look into.

NGS Conference: Gerry Stifter reported that the booth for the NGS Conference has been reserved. He has not applied for the sales tax permit. After a short discussion, Dixie moved to apply for the sales tax permit. Gene seconded the motion. The motion carried. Gerry will get the sales tax permit.

Wes reported that an MGS member who is a Boy Scout Leader had contacted him. The Boy Scouts are having a weekend camp near St. Cloud and are looking for people to help out with a table on genealogy. They would help give the scouts information to work on their genealogy badge. Wes will email us with more information. Let Wes know if you are willing to help.

The Irish Group is looking for a used map drawer file. We suggested going to a used furniture store or maybe government surplus. Also we would advertise the need in the newsletter.

Harold moved to adjourn the meeting. Gene seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:15.