

# Minnesota Genealogical Society

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Board Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, May 11, 2002  
MGS Library

Present: Lynn Besch, Wes Waring, Todd Aldrich, Gene Wenzel, Harold Hinds, Paula Goblirsch, Jean Jensen, Gerry Stifter, David Cross, Erv Chorn, Dixie Hansen, Tom Lanman, Linda Balk

Lynn Besch called the meeting to order at 9:35.

**Secretary's Report:** Linda Balk handed out the minutes from the March 23, 2002 Board meeting. Harold Hinds moved to accept the minutes. Tom Lanman seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Gene Menzel presented the 2001 annual report. He explained the changes in the report that reflected the advice of the Internal Audit Committee. Gene also presented the financial report for the first quarter of the year.

**President's Report:** Lynn Besch reviewed the action items from the previous meetings, and several items were crossed off the list as done. One of the items discussed was the Minneapolis and St. Paul city directories on microfilm. Tom said he would check with MHS and email Paula and Harold with the information.

**MGS 10 Year Plan:** The executive members felt that MGS need to develop a long-term plan to help strengthen and give direction for MGS in the future. Lynn Besch will head the committee. There will be a preliminary report for the July 27, 2002 meeting.

**Open Board Position:** With death of John White we have an open board position. Lynn proposed to appoint Jim Robasse, currently Member At Large, to fill this position and find another person to fill Jim's position. Dixie moved to have Jim Robasse fill the vacancy. Gerry Stifter seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

## Committee Reports

**Nominations Committee:** Tom Lanman distributed a copy of the ballot for MGS Officers and Board of Directors for 2002/2003 and an introduction of the nominees for our information.

**Internal Audit Committee:** Gerry Stifter presented his report on the Internal Audit. In the report he noted the need for a record retention policy. Gerry will draft a policy for the July 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Gerry also presented a draft of a Conflict of Interest Statement. It was suggested that the board members sign this annually. The Internal Audit Committee has done the branches as yet but will conduct them at a later date. The branches are to file quarterly reports.

**Education Committee:** Todd Aldrich presented his finding on Learning Management Systems (LMS). There are many systems and many prices and it was decided not to purchase one of these systems at this time. Todd would develop over time a system using Microsoft Access. This would be based at the MGS Library.

**Education Day:** Tom Lanman presented his findings on the last four education days which he

felt would help to plan for our fifth education day to be held in Burnsville in October, date to be determined.

**Membership Committee:** Dixie Hansen stated the membership is dropping. One suggestion was to follow up nonmembers who have used the library to see if the library was something they would use on a long-term commitment. It was also discussed about holding a class on "Internet Shortcomings" to help people understand that everything is not on the 'Net'.

**Program Committee:** Wes Waring presented his report to the board. The final bill for the March 2002 meeting has been paid. The June meeting will be held in Hinckley. The September meeting will be held at the Luther Seminary and Pamela Boyer Porter, CGRS, GGL will be the speaker. The December meeting will be at Ft Snelling. Topics are needed.

**Publications:**

**Minnesota Genealogist:** Erv Chorn stated that the Winter 2001 issue is 90% completed and should be out shortly. He still needs articles for the Spring 2002 issue and will be working on that issue as soon as the Winter issue is completed.

**MGS Newsletter:** Paula Goblirsch stated that the May 2002 issue is in the mail. She has updated the MGS handout. She would like some short committee reports for the August newsletter, the deadline is July 1, 2002.

**Building Report:** Erv Chorn reported that there is only one room left to rent. Right now it is being used as a spillover space. He is wondering if MGS will be needing it in the future. He could try for a 1-2 year rental for a temporary fix but right now it is up in the air until the school gets established.

**New Projects Reports:**

**Project Growth Update:** John Mercer reported that he needs a sum dedicated to Project Growth and volunteers to help him develop the plans for the project.

**Past Member Survey:** Todd Aldrich reported that the past member surveys were being prepared as we spoke. Todd, Linda and Wes started getting the surveys stuffed before the meeting and will finish after the meeting and get them in the mail.

**Annual Fund Drive:** David Cross and Gerry Stifter presented a draft of the letter for the annual fund drive. They will work on refining the letter. It will be sent to the officers when the draft is done for one more review.

**Old Business:**

**NGS:** Gerry Stifter reported that everything was in place for the Milwaukee Conference.

**Known Agenda items for July 27, 2002 Board Meeting:** There were none brought forward.

**New Business:** Linda Balk reported that the Boy Scouts had inquired about MGS becoming Genealogy Counselors for the scout troops. Linda will look into what is required and get back to the board.

At 11:45 Harold Hinds motioned to adjourn. Gene Menzel seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:  
Linda Balk, Secretary