

Minnesota Genealogical Society

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MGS Board Meeting MGS Library 13 May 2004

Present: John Mercer, Kent Driessen, Allan Weinand, Dixie Hansen, Kathy Lund, David Cross, Paula Goblirsch, Harold Hinds, Gay McClelland, Wesley Waring

Not Present: Tom Rice, Darlene Joyce, Rosalie Schack, Jim Robasse, Todd Aldrich, Don Kratsch, Larry Lundblad, Tom Lanman, Lynn Besch

President John Mercer brought the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Saturday May 13, 2004. He welcomed and thanked everyone for coming.

Linda Balk handed out the revised 2004 calendar, the minutes for the March 13, 2004 meeting and asked for corrections to the Board Members address list. Allan moved to accept the minutes. Dixie seconded the motion. The secretary's minutes were accepted.

David Cross presented a brief report on the MGS finances for 2004. A rough estimate is that the expenses per member are about \$40.00 and dues are \$30.00. John explained that our fundraising needs to be specific. We also need to get more involved with the education program. We also need to ask our members what they want and are we meeting their needs? John reported that the Summit Brewery in to non-profit organizations for meetings. It will hold up to 200 people. He also reported that we need to publicize the projects that we are currently working on.

We discussed membership enhancements. Heritage Quest and Ancestry.Com do allow institution memberships. John will look into costs and report back to the board. We talked about internet access for one of our computers in the library but nothing was decided at this time. We talked about plugging into a student internship to help with the computers as this is getting to be a large responsibility. Gay will talk to Jim about putting an order form on our site.

Kent Driessen is the new chairperson for the Volunteer Committee. He needs someone to work with him on getting a database of volunteers. He also needs some help structuring his committee. We need to update the job descriptions for the volunteers.

We discussed Education Day which is Oct 23, 2004. There was concern about attendance because the Irish are having an Education Day on Oct. 16, 2004. Todd talked to the coordinator of the Irish Education Day and she was not willing to combine our two groups for a one day event.

It was reported that there will be a Scottish Fair, July 10, 2004 at the Dakota County Fairgrounds. It will cost \$20.00 for a tent, \$15.00 for a table and chair and \$25 for electricity. Dixie moved to have MGS sponsor a tent at the Scottish Fair. Gay seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

John reminded us that the July 17, 2004 board meeting will be held at the Minnesota Historical Library. We will be having a formal portrait of the board. Afterwards there will be a pot luck at John's house.

John put out a request for speakers for the Speakers Bureau. If you know anyone or would like to be put on the list please let Tom Rice know.

Allan reported on the Welcome Center. If you have any pictures for use please give them to Dixie. The logo was sent around and Linda moved that we accept the new logo. Kathy Lund seconded the motion. The motion was carried. We will have the logo on the website for downloading.

Kathy Lund presented the Project Growth report. See Handout. She questioned having a new name, Group Development. She will send out a questionnaire with the ballots in the middle of June.

Dixie Hansen passed around that latest figures for membership in MGS. See report.

We talked about the upcoming meetings and passed out a report on them. See report.

John reported that we have a glut of old publications that we should try to get rid of. David mentioned putting them on the genealogist and history mailing list for trade. We thought of bundling the old Genealogists by years and having a sale, 50% off specific issues and 75% off if you buy a bundle. We talked about getting a Visa/Mastercard set up for the website. John will look into this. Dixie moved and Harold seconded the motion to sell individual Genealogists for 50% off and bundles for 75% off. The motion passed.

Harold moved and Dixie seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Balk, Secretary,