



Minnesota Genealogical Society

1185 N. Concord Street
South Saint Paul, MN 55075

<http://mngs.org>

MGS Board Meeting
1185 Concord Street North
Saturday, May 3, 2008

Present: Robin PanLener, President
Jay Fonkert, First Vice President
Sheila Northrop, Secretary
Mary Wickersham, Treasurer
Paula Goblirsch, Director
Terry Kita, Director
Kathy Lund, Director
Bergetta Monroe, Director
David Suddarth, Director
John Schade, Library Committee Chair

Not Present: Valerie Morrison, Director
Myrtice Orr, Director
Kathryn Otto, Director

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 P.M.

Secretary's Report:

Sheila Northrop reported that the Board had received the March Board and Quarterly meetings' minutes via email. A motion was made to accept the minutes with the correction of a typographical error, seconded and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Mary Wickersham reported that the Board had received the Treasurer's report via email. She detailed the highlights of that report for the Board. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded and passed.

Membership:

Robin PanLener reported that there was no report available for this month as of yet.

Robin also reported on the success of our April Open House dates. Attendance was very good, with approximately 75 people attending the first date and 110 people attending the second date. Several people acquired new memberships. A

suggestion was made that we have an open house every year. There was discussion of the value of publicity in MGS event attendance.

Robin reminded the Board that we will not be participating in the State Sesquicentennial Celebration as an organization.

Program:

Jay Fonkert had emailed program reports to the Board. He detailed the highlights of that report for the Board. He presented a proposal from the Executive Committee that we present a small cash token to the Olmstead Genealogical Society in appreciation of their assistance with the March Quarterly. A motion was made to present a token of \$100 with our thanks to the Olmstead Genealogical Society. That motion was seconded and passed.

Jay also discussed the details of the upcoming program events for 2008 and his ideas for Program in 2009 that were included in his report. There was a lot of discussion about Program ideas for the future. A motion was made to set the dates of April 18, 2009 and September 18-19, 2009 as our big quarterlies. That motion was seconded and passed. A motion was made to have the winter quarterly on November 22, 2008 and then withdrawn. A suggestion was made to authorize the Executive Committee to set the dates of the other 2 quarterlies for the 2008-2009 year. Jay mentioned that he will not be available for the next Board meeting and a request was made that he authorize someone to attend the meeting in his absence and to let the Board know who that will be.

Jay presented a proposal from the Education committee for Speaker's compensation (attached). Jay elaborated on the details of this proposal and how it came to be created. Suggestions were made to generalize and update the proposal. Kathy Lund and Terry Kita and Bergetta Monroe all offered to work on streamlining the proposal. Jay expressed concern that a final proposal be completed as soon as possible and Robin asked that a final proposal be available for e-vote by the Board soon. There was a lot of subsequent discussion.

Continuous Improvement:

Kathy Lund presented the committee report that she had circulated via email. There ensued a discussion of committees that need members and how we will cover our organizational needs. Kathy proposed that we eliminate some committees, fold a few into other existing committees and streamline others into an ad hoc committee. She also asked that the Officers have oversight responsibilities for functional areas and their committees, and that Directors chair committees of their choice and interest. The Board was in agreement on this sensible arrangement.

Nominations:

It was noted that a committee is needed to make nominations for the next vote. John Schade, Bergetta Monroe and Terry Kita offered to participate and Robin accepted their offer.

Library:

John Schade reported on the state of the library. He detailed recent donations as well as the process of cataloging the books in the library. Robin reported that we have been offered a table at the Minnesota Educators convention and he intends to have MGS participate in October. He suggests that we have a book sale fundraiser which would help with our duplicates. John reported that all microfilm will now be kept locked, because we have had a recent incidence of microfilm theft. Suggestions were made for security increases. A suggestion was also made that we increase non-member library fees. A motion was made to raise the non-member library usage rate from \$5 to \$10 effective July 1, 2008. The motion was seconded and passed.

Technology:

Robin reports that Jim LaValle wants to start a conversion of our library access to a computerized system where we can make our own cards and use the computer system that we have in place. The new system will help us track library usage and branch memberships. A motion was made, seconded. There was some discussion. The motion was passed.

Old Business:

In regards to time constraints, some items were bypassed. Robin reported that recipes for the cookbook project should be sent to Paul Sternberg.

Robin outlined ideas for a special issue of the newsletter in September that would include paid advertisements.

New Business:

Robin made announcements about the upcoming Scottish Fair and the Dakota County State Fair.

Robin also reported the recent generous donations made by Kathy Horan-Grampsch to MGS.

Robin re-visited his idea of creating an Advisory Committee for MGS that would utilize members from the greater community. It was suggested that the long-range committee be involved.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. That motion was seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila Northrop, Secretary