

Historical Society of Greater Lansing
May 7th, 2015, Creyts Building
Meeting Minutes

President Valerie Marvin called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM

Attendance:

Present: Valerie Marvin, Tim Kaltenbach, Bill Castenier, Zig Olds, Anne Wilson, Roni Sionakides, Jesse Lasorda and Ron Emery

Absent: Harry Emmons, Joan Bauer, and Erik Nelson

Visitors/Guests: Bob Rose

Review and Approve Minutes: 1 ¹

The minutes of the March 24th meeting were reviewed and on motion by Anne, seconded by Jesse were unanimously approved without change.

Treasurer's Report: 2

Tim provided two written summaries of the current balances in both the General and the Museum funds. A copy of each is attached to these minutes. As of May 7th, 2015 the General Fund balance is \$5,491.83; the balance in the Museum fund is \$65,623.99. Tim reported that the General Fund balance increased \$966 in book sales revenues, while book expense was \$545. The book expense includes the printing costs and the gift of 50 of the books to Craig Whitford and to members of the Baker family. He reported also that we netted \$1171 from the Baker event.

¹ Numbers next to topic headings correspond to Agenda items.

Ron moved to accept and file Tim's written reports. Anne seconded the motion and the board unanimously voted to do so.

Valerie questioned whether we should do two rather than just one fundraiser each year that require soliciting sponsorships.

Collections Report: 3

Zig reported that the committee has done further work on drafting a mission statement to identify the kind of items we will accept in our collections. He distributed a form letter to respond to offers of items but noted that the criterion will be expanded to include items that "tie directly to the Greater Lansing Area." (Copy attached) He passed out a decision tree that will address when and how we will accept and/or decline items. (Copy attached) Zig agreed to include a time-line in the form so that we quickly notify donors of our action. We need to notify donors when we reject items also. There will also be a separate form for items received for auction.

Ron turned over to Zig a black Attorney General briefcase that contained the materials received from Mrs. Nvenka Dines in February related to Dines Avenue Terrace restaurant, as well as a signed loan agreement that describes the items received on loan and those donated to HSGl permanently.

Bill also presented a camera to Zig to use to photograph items that go into the collections.

Valerie noted that there is a book available for \$100 that can be purchased that will explain how to categorize collections items.

We discussed again the potential purchase of a new computer and computer applications for use in keeping track of collections items. Zig also reported that an anonymous donor gave the HSGl some storage boxes to store collections items in.

Ron asked how to set up a separate e-mail address to use to communicate with members regarding renewal notices. Valerie will discuss with her IT expert.

Baker Events Wrap-up: 4

Kurt Wannamaker videotaped a number of the events that will be available for viewing.

Photo Exhibit: 5

The event will start in September at the State Library. We will borrow panels from Central Michigan University that show the history of photographic processes. There is a large space to fill Jacob McCormick will participate with some of his photographic displays. Videos of early Michigan Avenue scenes would be useful. Valerie will set up a meeting to organize this event.

Upcoming Events: 6

- a. May 12 Harper House fundraiser
- b. Vietnam Vet Panel May 21st organized by Mason Teacher Scott Schattuck
- c. Be A Tourist in your own hometown - Saturday May 30th. Valerie sought volunteers to man the City Hall exhibit that day. Also need an activity to attract kids to the exhibit.
- d. Annual Meeting June 6th at LCC. 11:45 AM at the Arts and Sciences Bldg. with a campus tour at 1 PM.
- e. June 11th, Herman Book Event will be held at the State Library and will honor John Herman a communist/socialist writer who was awarded the 1932 National Short Story prize with the book "What Happens." (The book was banned as obscene)
- f. Michigan Avenue Walking Tour June 18th – Sparrow Hospital and Resurrection

- g. June 25th Holling C. Holling, who wrote children's books with Michigan topics and locations.

City Pamphlet

Valerie asked for consensus on whether HSGL should continue to financially support the city historical pamphlet despite the inaccuracies in it. Consensus was that we cannot back out now and we need to donate \$400 to printing the pamphlet. Jesse moved to authorize a \$400 donation. Zig seconded and the board agreed unanimously.

Auction 2015: 7

Valerie proposed setting the next board meeting to discuss the auction and to have monthly meetings thereafter to monitor donation items. She suggested either Wed May 27th or Wed June 17th. She will send an e-mail with contact information to board members to use to make the contacts. The auction will be held October 10th. One possible location will be one of the high schools, most likely Eastern. Jesse will contact the Lansing School District about this possibility.

Adjournment

At 9:09 on motion by Bill seconded by Jesse and unanimously by the board.

Secretary

Ron Emery

May 12th, 2015

Historical Society of Greater Lansing
June 6th, 2015, Arts & Sciences Building
Campus of LCC
Annual Meeting Minutes

President Valerie Marvin called the meeting to order at 11:48 AM

The annual membership luncheon meeting began with the brief business of election of officers and executive board members. Jesse LaSorda conducted the elections as Valerie was up for re-election. The slate of candidates for officers consisted of Valerie for President, Bill Castenier for Vice-President, Tim Kaltenbach for Treasurer, and Ron Emery for Secretary. The slate of candidates for the executive board consisted of Bob Rose, Ann Wilson and Harry Emmons.

Jesse opened the floor for further nominations but nine were forthcoming. Member Linda Peckham moved to approve the slate of candidates for both officers and executive board members. Member Shirley Slayger seconded the motion. The vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

Valerie then reported on the status of the organization, its membership count, and financial status. At that point Member Peckham inquired about the last time an audit was conducted. Tim explained that no recent audit has been done but further explained that the receipt and handling of money involves two officers in addition to himself- the president and the secretary. Further discussion was had about the need for and expense of a professional audit. Member Dave Sucha queried whether our 501(c) status requires an audit. Tim explained that because the HSGL does not have annual income in excess of \$50,000 or net assets over \$500,000, a professional audit is not necessary.

Following the discussion Valerie introduced Dave Sewick, Professor of History at LCC who gave a brief history of the establishment, development, and evolution of LCC and its goals and purposes, and a history of some of its landmark buildings.. Following his presentation, Professor Sewick led a walking tour of the campus. With that the meeting concluded.

Secretary

Ron Emery
June 8th, 2015