

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Monday May 2nd, 2016
Creys Building

President Valerie Marvin called the meeting to order at 7:02.

Present: Valerie Marvin, Bill Castanier, Zig Olds, Bob Rose, Anne Wilson, Roni Sionakides, Tim Kaltenbach, and Ron Emery.

Absent: Joan Bauer, Jesse Lasorda Harry Emmons, and Erik Nelson

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting of March 22nd were reviewed. On Roni's motion seconded by Bill they were unanimously approved.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Tim presented the Treasurer's report. On Roni's motion to place the report on file, seconded by Anne. Approved 8-0. Valerie noted that we are spending more on the newsletter because we pay Institeeprints to fold them before sending them out. Is only an issue for mailed copies. Anne offered to help fold them and Bob suggested we increase e-mail distribution of newsletter Val also noted that we do not have enough dues coming in. Bob also suggested and Valerie concurred in offering a multiple year membership with a discount of \$5 for three years. Insurance expense has risen about \$500. Valerie suggested increasing the individual and family membership rates \$5 per year (to \$25 and \$35 respectively) This increase would be effective July 1st 2016. On Anne's motion, seconded by Zig, approved 8-0. Again on Anne's motion seconded by Zig, she moved to approve a multiple year dues structure of \$60 for individual, and \$90 for family for three years. Approved 8-0.

3. Collections:

Zig reported that clean up of the collections area in the basement. Continues. He had help from other board members and members. Everything is off the floor and at least on to the new shelving. He will be working at this usually on Sunday's between 4 and 6 PM. He will send notices of when he will be here to continue to board members and known volunteers. The receipt system has not yet been automated.

Valerie raised the issue of 3D items and photographs. Should we offer these to CADL because they are in better position to store and maintain these? Zig advised that information from CADL is that they feel somewhat constrained in what they can take and store both literally and figuratively.

The discussion then turned to how we go about trying to establish an income stream to store and maintain our collection. Fundraisers for "a museum" have had only limited success. Valerie wondered if we could try to get a millage passed for tat purpose. We also have not pursued grant money for the same.

This was followed by a discussion on holding a citywide gathering of historically oriented organizations to discuss the need for a local museum. Valerie wants to look beyond just Lansing and wants to team up with rather than compete with other like purposed groups. Especially auto related historical groups. We need a plan or a goal that is "something more than just a museum". On Bill's motion seconded by Anne Bill moved to schedule a strategic planning meeting this fall that could address the above-mentioned issues.

4. Creys Building:

Valerie also reported that rent for the Creys building for the year beginning in June has gone up to \$1400. The rental period runs from July through June of next year.

We next discussed potential alternative locations for our organization. Ideally the location will have space for storage, exhibits, and events. Bob suggested the Lansing Center. Bill had talked with Bob Every who suggested we seek the unused section the center's hall way for exhibits. Other places mentioned were the Temple Building (old Masonic Temple), shopping centers, The Soup Spoon (photo exhibit only), CADL, the CATA building, the airport, and Hannah Center in East Lansing. Bob will contact Scott Keith of the Lansing Center and the Capitol City Airport, Ron will contact Mark Meadows of East Lansing regarding the Hannah Center, Anne will contact CATA, and Bill will contact Bill Every.

5. Board Positions and Annual meeting:

Valerie reported that Norm Charles, a retired state of Michigan employee with a sincere interest in history, and Mary Kwas , who has been active already in or programs , have agreed to run for a board position at the annual meeting to replace Erick and Roni. Anne will present the slate of candidates for new board members and officers for the coming year at the Annual meeting to be held in June at Fenner Arboretum. The available dates are either June 9th or 23rd.. Ron Eggeston, a HSGL member will begin the program with a history of the arboretum with a short annual business meeting to follow.. The slate for new board members and officers will be voted on at that time.

6. Programs and Exhibits:

Valerie asked for volunteers to man the HSGL "Lansing has Fun" exhibit at City Hall during the "Be a tourist in your own hometown" event on June 4th. Two shifts are needed , one from 10AM to 1:30 and a second from 1:30 to 5 PM.

7. Exhibit plans:

Bob reported that Keith, the owner of the Soupspoon restaurant is interested in allowing displays and even in allowing us to store stuff on site. He also reported that Nicole Williams of the Airport authority is very enthusiastic about displays there also. Anne reported that CATA is also enthusiastic about providing room for displays. Ron reported that he has contacted Elaine Hardy form the Hannah Center in East Lasing. He will try to set up a meeting with her about exhibits and storage facilities there. There also was a discussion about purchasing new display cases that can be rotated between locations easily.

Adjournment. At 9:13 on motion by Bill seconded by Ron the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting is scheduled for June 9th.

Respectfully Submitted

Ron Emery
Secretary
May 9th, 2016

