

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING  
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING  
Tuesday, May 9th 2017  
4232 Shady Hill Lane Lansing, Mi

President Bill Castenier called the meeting to order at 6:35PM.

**Present:** Valerie Marvin, Bill Castanier, Bob Rose, Anne Wilson, Mary Kwas, Jacob McCormick and Zig Olds, Ron Emery.

**Absent:** Joan Bauer, Jesse Lasorda, Tim Kaltenbach, and Harry Emmons,

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting of March 14th were reviewed. On Anne's motion, seconded by Jacob, the minutes were unanimously approved.

**2. Treasurer's Report:**

Although Tim, the Treasurer was not present a written report was presented. The General Fund balance as of April 30<sup>th</sup> was \$5,722.29. The Museum Fund balance was \$76,066.24. On Valerie's motion, seconded by Anne, the report was unanimously accepted and placed on file.

**3. Upcoming Events:**

a) Moores River Drive House Tour: Val reported that the tour has been scheduled for September 17th from 1-5PM. Valerie noted the need to solicit sponsorships for the fall home tour and brunch. Forms for recording the sponsorships are included in the May newsletter as well as future newsletters. Ticket prices for the home tour will be \$25 for the tour itself and \$25 for the earlier brunch. A brief discussion followed concerning where the money raised should go- i.e. to the General Fund or to the Museum Fund. The consensus was to wait on that question to see how much money is raised.

b) The Year 1937 Event: The exhibit in Lansing City Hall will go up in May for a June 3<sup>rd</sup> opening. A state historical marker commemorating the strike will also be dedicated that day. To the disappointment of the Unions participating the historical marker will NOT be installed in City Hall. Bill needs volunteers to begin set up of the exhibit on Monday May15th beginning at 3PM.

c) Robert Morris Award: The award recognizing special efforts to further the study of local history will be presented to Tim Bowman at the June 8<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting.

d) Annual Meeting: The meeting is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup> at the State of Michigan Library and Archives.

e) Bill advised that Paul Gentilozzi offered HSGL vacant space in the Michigan Theater building as office space for our use. Bill will discuss this with Gentilozzi for further details and report back.

**4. Building Move:**

The move into the new RE Olds Transportation Museum facility was delayed because a very large boat on a cradle was still in the space tendered to HSGL. Bill Adcock the Executive Director of the RE Olds Museum says the boat and cradle should be removed within the week. We will use a rental truck for this. Volunteers are needed at Creyts on Saturday April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 AM. We will need to rent the truck a second day to complete the move on a separate day.

**5. June Annual Meeting elections:**

- a) New Board Candidates: Carol Monroe, who works for the City Parks & Recreation with a major in History from MSU has agreed to serve. Her name will be on the June ballot. Bob will contact Guillermo Lopez to solicit Hispanic candidates for the board. As Jesse Lasorda's job precludes his active involvement he resigned his seat and needs to be filled. Our goal is to diversify our executive board with minority and Hispanic members.
- b) Morris-Peckham Award: Former HSGL officer and member Bob Morris recently passed away. At his funeral and wake the family (Linda Peckham his wife) solicited donations to the HSGL in his memory. Bill suggested that we use that money to fund an annual award from the organization to recognize a person in the area who has furthered the study of local history. A couple names of persons were suggested. Some criteria for the award were discussed but it was left pretty open-ended. The award recipient will be determined at the May meeting for presentation at the annual meeting on June 8<sup>th</sup>. Linda Peckham will be invited to attend and maybe present the award.

**6. Fall Events and Program Calendar**

- a) The following events are scheduled the coming year:
  - May 16<sup>th</sup> "The 60's at MSU" Bill and Bob Pearson Delta Twp Lib 6:30 PM
  - May 18<sup>th</sup> Bath School Disaster Commemoration Bath Mid School 4-8 PM
  - June 2<sup>nd</sup> Opening of exhibit "1937: The Year" City Hall
  - June 3<sup>rd</sup> Tourist in Your Own Home Town City Hall
  - June 3<sup>rd</sup> Dedication of Labor Holiday Historical Marker City Hall 12 noon
  - June 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting Belle Maniates presentation, Library of Michigan
  - June 29<sup>th</sup> Book Launch, Jim Neal interviews author Eugene Wanger Lib of Mich  
Re: book concerning Capital Punishment
- b) Walking Tour Dates:
  - June 15<sup>th</sup> Lansing Photographers downtown-Jacob McCormick
  - June 22<sup>nd</sup> Westside Neighborhood
  - July 13<sup>th</sup> Cherry Hill Neighborhood
  - July 29<sup>th</sup> Capitol City Car Celebration; auto related-sites downtown
  - August 12<sup>th</sup> Johnny Cash and Elvis Impersonator Fundraiser City Market 7PM
  - August 19<sup>th</sup> Old East Campus 10 AM
  - August 26<sup>th</sup> Beal Gardens Tour 6:30 PM
  - September 17<sup>th</sup> Moores River Drive Home tour and Brunch 11AM-1PM
  - October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Malcolm X's daughter Alyasha Shabaz will visit
- c) Others to be scheduled:
  - Reading Group for the Book "X" about Malcolm X
  - Algiers Motel Incident during the Detroit Riot/Rising in conjunction with the release of the movie "Detroit" about the riot
  - John Herrmann book WWI book concerning anti-German backlash in Lansing
  - Great Lakes Sailor presentation this will include a poet, a CMU archivist, and a book about sinking of the Carl D. Bradley
  - MSU WWI exhibit will present items and information on that era
  - Msgr. George Michalek, Lansing Diocesan Historian presentation on Catholics in Lansing
  - Alfreda Schmidt will be interviewed with her hats
  - Al Capone presentation to debunk many local myths about his presence or lack thereof here in Lansing

**7. Donations:**

- a) LaClear Photography has offered HSGL its old negatives, film and equipment.
- b) The Stebbins family has offered HSGL its photo collection of almost 84,000 photos including digital copies of photographs going as far back as 1880. On Anne's motion, seconded by Bob, the board unanimously authorized the purchases of 3 TB's of storage to be used to download the photos.

c) The daughter of Hans Rother, an early Lansing architect has offered HSGL his drawings and sketches as well as some furniture from his 60-year career in Lansing.

d) An extended discussion then followed about what options HSGL has for taking possession of, storing and maintaining collections like the three just discussed. Do we sign an agreement with MSU, LCC, CADL, or the State of Michigan to let them keep possession of them while HSGL maintains ownership and access to them? Do we set up a separate account in the budget to fund that type of operation?

**8. Adjournment:**

On motion by Mary, seconded by Bob, the meeting was adjourned at 7:52PM

**Next meeting: The Annual Meeting June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Library of Michigan.**

Ron Emery  
Secretary  
May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017

As Amended at July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting

Ron Emery