

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, July 25th, 2017
4232 Shady Hill Lane Lansing, Mi

President Bill Castenier called the meeting to order at 6:47PM.

Present: Valerie Marvin, Bill Castanier, Bob Rose, Anne Wilson, Mary Kwas, Joan Bauer, Tim Kaltenbach, Zig Olds, and Ron Emery.

Absent: Jacob McCormick, and Harry Emmons,

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting of May 9th were reviewed. Tim offered several name spelling corrections. On Mary's motion, seconded by Bob, the minutes were unanimously approved. Valerie was asked to recreate the minutes from the Annual Meeting particularly the election results since Ron was absent at that meeting.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Tim presented a written report that showed that the General Fund balance as of July 22nd was \$9,994.21. Of this \$3,500 is dedicated to the Abrams fund. The Museum Fund balance was \$76,545.39. On Ron's motion, seconded by Joan, the written report was unanimously accepted and placed on file. (A copy of the report is attached to these minutes). Tim briefly reviewed what moneys had been recently received by donation.

3. Walking Tours:

Bill and Valerie commented that the Cherry Hill Neighborhood walking tour had been well attended with interesting homes and the Cherry Hill School building. One of the homeowners even came out and spoke in some detail on the history of her home. The following tours are also scheduled for the balance of the summer.

July 29th Capitol City Car Fest Saturday starting at 10 AM.

August 19th.... East Campus at MSU

August 24th.... Beal Gardens at MSU

4. Audit:

Bill noted that he and Ron had agreed several meetings back to undertake an unofficial audit of the Society's books and records. Ron will try to contact an auditor or CPA to see if they can donate some time to this project.

5. Strategic Planning:

This topic has been discussed at previous meetings also. The consensus is that it will be worthwhile and perhaps necessary if the HSGL wants to continue to successfully fund raise. Deborah Mikula of the Greater Lansing Arts Council has initially agreed to serve as the facilitator of such an event. It was the consensus that this would be a "visioning" session that would help us to decide what it means to "raise money for a museum." Will it be a "virtual museum" or a brick and mortar one? In short we need to have a specific plan for our fund raising.

6. The Move:

Despite an initial delay, there is a need to begin the move and vacate the Creyts building, as we have not paid rent on it for several months. The big items to be moved are the lateral files and large collection items. Most are ready to be moved. Initial discussion centered on a move with private vehicles by board members and volunteers. After further discussion, the board concluded that for speed and safety of persons and the collections, professional movers would be preferred. Bill

will contact 2 Men and a Truck, a previous benefactor about getting an estimate for the move. On Joan's motion, seconded by Mary, \$3000 was authorized to pay for professional mover services. Board members and volunteers will still be needed both at Creyts and the new location to pack and store items at the location.

7. Photo Collections:

Bill noted that he had been in contact with CADL and discussed the impending opportunity to obtain the Stebbins Collection of real estate photos. There may be as many as 40,000 photos. Bill suggested that in lieu of actually waiting to use museum fund money to buy a building, we should consider partnering with CADL for this project. HSGL would purchase the equipment to store, maintain and access these photos and other similar information. HSGL could take electronic possession of the photos and leave actual storage with CADL.

8. Gannett Grant:

Zig suggested to Bill that we apply for grants to obtain money for the maintaining of I-496 construction, planning and condemnation documents from that project as well as photos and for scanning the city street name change book as part of a city streets project. Our goal would be to obtain funding for scanning this information electronically and making it interactively accessible. The grant application should stress the "diversity-friendly" nature of this project.

9. Fall Events:

September 17th Moores Drive Home Tour

Joan coordinated the tour that includes 6 homes in the Moores River Drive neighborhood. Joan described the homes. They will be open from 1-5 PM, preceded by a brunch at the Lansing Country Club at 11 AM. A presentation will be held at the brunch. The homeowners will enlist volunteers and the HSGL will too. Volunteers will be stationed in the homes and along the route. A presenter will be at each house to describe the same and answer questions. The tour will cost \$20. The brunch will cost extra. Joan would like each board member to recruit 3-4 volunteers and e-mail her with the names. The final details will be resolved at the Sept 5th HSGL Bd meeting.

October 8th Frank Lloyd Wright Tour

Lead by Susan Bandes of MSU celebrating the 150th birthday of Wright. It will be held in Okemos with HSGL to help with volunteers.

October 25th U of M Bi-centennial.

This will be held at the Library of Michigan, co hosted by the U of M Club of Lansing.

November 8th Hank Meijer presentation on Senator Vandenberg

This will be held at the Library of Michigan and will focus on Meijer's book about Vandenberg. This will be co hosted by HSGL and the Michigan Political History Society.

TBA

TBA

10. Non-agenda items:

a) Bill noted that Plymouth "Congregational Church at the corner of Fairview and Grand River will be closing and sold. We are contemplating a program on this church that moved from downtown after a fire in its downtown location in 1971.

b) The Detroit Historical Society will have an exhibit on the Detroit Riot/Rising. Several suggested that the HSGL consider setting up a bus trip for this event.

c) Bob suggested that we contact MDOT about possibly using a site on the western end of the Michigan Ave Bridge as an exhibit site for temporary exhibits.

11. Adjournment:

On Anne's motion seconded by Joan, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 PM on September 5th.

Ron Emery
Secretary
July 31, 2017