

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, October 30, 2018
7104 Ravenna Trail, Lansing, Mi 48917

President Bill Castanier called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

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

Absent: Joan Bauer and Helen Mickens

Guest: None

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous board meeting (July 23) had been e-mailed to all for review in advance of the meeting. On motion by Mary, seconded by Valerie the minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Tim passed out a three-page Treasurers report that showed the quarterly fund balances, and the fiscal year 2018 Financial Summary. Tim reported that two reports are necessary in order to report to the Attorney General as a non-profit. As of this date the fund balances are as follows: General Fund \$19,649.83; Museum Fund \$100,941.14 with \$50,000 of that in a CD at Huntington Bank. The General Fund financial summary shows total revenue at \$48,484.65, expenses and transfers of \$47,640.46, and net assets of \$9,369.12; the Museum Fund financial summary shows total revenue at \$25,000, expenses and transfers of \$583.40, and net assets of \$100,968.94. On motion by Ron, seconded by Mary the treasurers' report was unanimously accepted and placed on file.

President's Report:

Bill thanked Jacob for two excellent recent programs, i.e. Lansing stereo cards and the history of the MSU Marching Band. Bill also noted discussion about a future program that would include an MSU memory night and/or a Brody Dorm "mike night." Mark Harvey, the State Archivist, encouraged HSGL to participate in the Library's "StoryCorps" and Facebook. Bill discussed with him an interest in HSGL co-sponsoring this site. Bill encouraged Ron and Bob to go to the State Historical Society's training on video programs.

Audit Report:

Bill and Tim reported that Layton & Richardson had sent a letter requesting HSGL records. Tim had gathered his records and turned them over to Ron to transmit to the CPA firm electronically.

I-496 Grant Update:

Marilyn Plummer of the City advised that the formal announcement of the project will occur during the week of December 1 at the Union Missionary Baptist Church. This will be a public event with a program at which HSGL will describe the background. Bill briefly discussed the delay in the announcement. The “roll-out” of the program will occur in January that will be open to members and the public. This will likely include a kick-off bus tour. The goal is to get the African-American community involved together with our members. Bill would like to get Gerald Copage of the NAACP involved in collecting individual and group oral histories. Bill also discussed when HSGL could go public on the project (ex. on Facebook). Valerie and Cathy suggested that since the payment of project expenses will go through the City, we should do a “test” billing to determine how long the process will take to get payments made

WWW:

Bill reported that process of redesigning the infrastructure of our website and the I-496 website has begun. Sam Rose of Mason will be paid for his work through the I-496 grant. Could be up to \$6900 for this project. Once completed, we will be able to post on and send out our newsletter on the Archives.org site. We will also be able to capture items on our FB page.

Home Tour:

Joan, through Bill, made a final report on the success of the September Moores River home tour. She also suggested that she thought another similar tour would be a good idea. She suggested a different neighborhood be considered such as Glencairn in East Lansing or one on the west side of Lansing. She already has contacted a local resident in the Glencairn neighborhood who offered to organize the potential tour.

City Hall Move:

Bill reported that the City has “evicted” us from city hall ASAP. However, the LPD has offered to help us move the current exhibit and store it at its Harry Hill location. Bill suggested that we rent a truck for the move. Bill will contact us to help as the situation goes forward.

Status of Exhibits:

Bill reported that there will be three upcoming exhibits including a Music exhibit, one featuring Jim Harrison, author of the Legends of the Fall from Haslett, and the Thompson Collection at MSU highlighting photographs of the Lansing Wheelbarrow Company.

Summer Walking Tours:

Bill reported that the plan is to have 2 per month with 6 altogether. 4 will be new and 2 will be repeats. These may include Lansing alleys, MSU sorority or fraternity houses, the Moores pool, the Sycamore Neighborhood, a west side

neighborhood (i.e., Mar-Moor) Bill also reported that the place-making signs will be erected in the city around mid-November.

Events:

Bill announced that there would be a program on the work of Charles Pollard, whose works (large murals) are on display at the BWL Dye building on November 14 at 6:30pm. Tickets are free. Bill will make a presentation on public art in the greater Lansing area at the program. Valerie will make presentations on the Capitol Building in Lansing, and the original one in Detroit on November 29. Other ideas of future programs included the use of DNA in criminal investigation, the history of hot rods in Lansing, the career of Martha Dixon, the local TV celebrity chef from WJIM.

Committee Structure:

Val circulated a proposed list of committees and asked for board members to volunteer to work on these to help take the burden off Bill and all future presidents. Proposed Committees and those volunteering on the committees include the following:

- Audit – Ron
- Collections – Zig
- Fundraising- Joan
- Grants – Cathy
- Newsletter & Membership- Valerie and Mary
- Walking Tours – Valerie

Other suggested committees include Events (speakers), Exhibits, and Website & Social Media/Community Outreach

Each committee would be chaired by a Board member and would need at least three other members. At least two should be at-large i.e. non-board members. Board members were asked to e-mail Bill and Val to advise what committee they would agree to serve on and to suggest any additional committees they felt were needed.

Collections:

Zig advised that he is working on establishing separate topic rooms at the archives on Pennsylvania Avenue. He needs help doing this on the weekends. This involves going through bins, identifying them and sorting them out.

Adjournment:

On motion by Anne, seconded by Tim, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 PM. Bill will schedule the next meeting after notice.

Ron Emery

/S/

Secretary

November 26, 2018

Approved at January 23, 2019 meeting