

**MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**Saturday, August 13, 2005  
IGS West Wing**

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (“IGS”) Board of Directors was held Saturday, August 13, 2005, at the Genealogical Society Library in Des Moines. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by president George Giesler.

**Present:** LuAnn Folkers, Executive Director; George Giesler, President; Chuck Prickett, Treasurer and Region 6 representative; Peter Seaba, Region 2 Representative; Pat Border, Region 3 Representative; Al Miller, Region 4 Representative; Patricia Bernard, Region 7 Representative; Ted Lussem, Region 8 Representative; Ev Brightman, Region 9 Representative; Bill Lees, Region 11 Representative; Stan Bastman, Region 13 Representative; Janice Danielson, Region 14 Representative; Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Representative, Margaret Foster, Historian; and Robert Aubrey, Secretary. Several members of the society were present.

**Approval of Agenda (additions/deletions)**

**Motion** to approve agenda by Chuck **Second** by Ev Brightman. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

**Minutes of Previous Meeting – Bob Aubrey**

**Motion** to dispense with the reading of the minutes by Bob, **second** by Chuck. Amendments: under “appointments” it should read that: “All appointees will serve the existing term until **December 31, 2006.**” In Nominating committee: should read: “service on **the board.**”, not “this committee.” **Motion carried.**

**Resignations and Appointments**

**Motion** to approve Patricia Bernard as Region 7 representative by Stan Bastman, **second** by Ted. Ev suggested that we receive a bio when people are nominated so we know something about them. **Motion carried.** Patricia introduced herself to the board and told a bit of her history.

**President's Report... George Giesler** presented a written report, attached. George thanked the State Fair Volunteers. He reported on the Town Hall Meeting on May 20<sup>th</sup>, presentations made since the May meeting to publicize the society. The “Phone Home for IGS” has netted approximately \$9,000. That and the IGS Cookbook have carried the general Fund for the last quarter. Thank you to all who have worked so hard on these projects.

**First Vice President's Report... Rick McCubbin** Absent, no report.

**Second Vice President's Report... Mel Armstrong** Absent, no report

**Treasurer's Report... Chuck Prickett** presented a written report, attached. 37% of our income comes from memberships. We need to garner more from programs and from direct public support. We are doing better than last year, but we still must continue to energetically raise money.

**Executive Directors Report... LuAnn Folkers** presented a verbal report. Introduced a new mascot “Tommy Twig” to the Iowa State Fair Booth to encourage children and visit with their parents. We have had people from CA and TX stop at the booth. We have upgraded the server, and since, we have not suffered the problems that we did before. Garage sale at the end of July, thanks to Diane Dinsmore and Billie Murano and their crew for their help. We are

renting the west wing more, bringing in income. We suspended “Lunch and Learn” for the summer and will pick it up again in the fall. We seem to have turned a corner: people have been donating more and are working hard to keep the doors open.

**Capital Campaign Committee’s Report – Bob Aubrey Motion** by Bob to have the Board of Directors approve the Capital Campaign resolutions presented to it by the Executive Board, **second** by Ev. The resolutions are as follows:

1. Be it resolved that the Iowa Genealogical Society tender an offer to the members and to the general public to lend money to the Society, interest free, for the purpose of retiring the mortgage held by State Savings Bank on the building at 628 E. Grand Avenue in Des Moines, IA, which houses the Society’s library and offices.
2. Be it resolved that the Iowa Genealogical Society will issue promissory notes for each \$1000.00 lent to the Society, stating that the money is interest-free and for an indefinite period of time: the Society will not begin redeeming these notes until after the original mortgage or any refinancing of the original mortgage is retired. These promissory notes will bear the signatures of the President and of the Treasurer of the Society as agents of the Society
3. Be it resolved that the funds so collected be deposited in a separate bank account opened specifically to house these funds, and entitled: “IGS Building Fund”. Funds so deposited are restricted and may not be used for any purpose what-so-ever than reduction of the mortgage principal amount. This account will be administered by the Treasurer of the Iowa Genealogical Society corporation, who will arrange transfer of funds against the principal of the mortgage in such a manner and in such frequency as agreed to by the mortgage holder.
4. Be it resolved that the Treasurer of the Society will convey to the members of the Board of Directors a monthly accounting of the receipts and disbursements of the building fund. The Treasurer will also ensure the regular report to the membership and all note holders (at least quarterly) of the progress of the Capital Campaign, through the Newsletter and/or the *Hawkeye Heritage*, and/or any other appropriate communication modes necessary to reach all note holders.
5. Be it resolved that acceptance by IGS of the funds provided through this Capital Campaign shall obligate the IGS to continue its fund-raising development after the mortgage is retired, and provide careful management of the operation of the Society and the Library so as to set aside for eventual repayment an amount each month approximately equal to the dollar amount that is applied to the current mortgage.
6. Be it resolved that the Iowa Genealogical Society, after the retirement of the mortgage, will at least annually, at a public gathering, determine by lottery drawing the interest free notes to be repaid from available funds, such determination of available funds to be made by the Board of Directors upon recommendation of the Treasurer of the Society, until all such notes are repaid.
7. Be it resolved that at any time before the repayment of any promissory note, any note holder may inform IGS in writing of his/her intention to turn the promissory note into a donation, at which time a receipt appropriate to serve as IRS proof of donation would be issued to the note-holder/donor.
8. Be it resolved that if at any time IGS should be dissolved or in any way take any action involving the disposal of or sale of the building at 628 E. Grand Avenue, Building Fund note holders will stand in first position, behind the current mortgage holder only, for repayment of outstanding promissory notes.

Discussion followed. Roll call vote Janice Danielson, Bill Lees, Ev Brightman, Ted Lussem, Pat Border, Bob Aubrey, Chuck Prickett, Adrian Brisee, Peter Seaba, Stan Bastman, Patricia Bernard voted yes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Old Business:**

Nominating Committee: George expressed an apology for not following through from March on. The board last year failed to select a nominating committee. Joyce appointed Darrell, but he resigned from the position. No one who was appointed remained on the nominating committee. George presented a slate of vacancies and present officers to stand for election. Peter Seaba - Region 2, Ev Brightman - Region 9, Jane Briley - Region 10, Grace Hertz - Region 12, Janice Danielson - Region 14 have all served two terms and are not eligible for re-election. Although we are

behind in the calendar, ballots will go out by the end of August. Ted asked if the vice president's offices are open for election. George replied that both are filled until 2006. George will send out an e-mail to the membership.

Website: most of the web servers we contacted would not support our shopping cart with more than 2000 items. We will retain our server and credit card package. We have signed up with PayPal, which seems a more secure payment means. Lots of favorable comments about the *Hawkeye Heritage* e-edition. Marcia Martin has said she will be willing to contact the County Supervisors for tax abatement.

#### **New Business:**

**Motion** by Bob to raise membership rates to \$35 for an individual and \$50 for a family at the annual meeting. **Second** by Ted. Discussion followed. Suggested that when we present this, we present a list of state societies and what they charge. We do a lot more than most societies. **Motion carried.**

**Motion** by Bob that the board ask the membership to approve the increase be effective November 1, 2005, and that in the meantime we inform the membership of the planned increase and allow members to renew for up to three years at the old rates (\$30 and \$40). **Failed of second.**

**Motion** by George to rescind the first motion to rewrite. **Second** by Ted. **Motion carried.**

**Motion** by Ev Brightman that the Board ask the members at the annual meeting to raise the rates to \$35 for individuals and \$50 for families, effective November 1, 2005, and that current members can prepay at the old rate for up to three years, until January 1, 2006. **Second** by Janice Danielson. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Question raised about a Parliamentarian. George said he has asked someone but has not gotten a response yet. He said he is also looking for a volunteer coordinator.

**Motion** by Ev that President and/or Executive Director send the board notice about anything unusual that would not be sent out in the newsletter [like the ad in the *Des Moines Register Datebook* regarding the Party-makers-from-Dallas event billed by the *Register* as "group sex in a box"] so that board members could defuse members' negative responses. **Second** by Peter. **Motion carried.**

Ted presented a report from the IGS Building Committee. Report attached. He raised the question of getting a key. There were 65 keys to the old building. People would come in after hours and use the copier – at times as many as 10,000 copies. We have restricted keys to staff only. **Motion** by Ev that the chair of the Building Committee be assigned a key. Seconded by Bill Lees. Discussion followed. **Motion carried.**

Break at 11:54 am. Reconvene at 12:06 pm.

Adrian Brisee: some societies offer ProQuest to members, allowing them to access them through the website. George asked Adrian to investigate it and report on it next meeting.

**Audience Comments.** . . . Margaret Foster - as historian, what are the plans for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the conference? Nothing yet scheduled for the conference. It falls under Rick McCubbin's committee. Because of a conflict with the hotel, meeting can not be held there. (We would be limited to only ½ hour for the meeting. Therefore the date has not yet been set for the annual meeting. Margaret asked about the pictures of the past presidents.

Have we notified the chapters formally that we are still having cash flow problems, asking them to wait for their revenue-sharing checks? No we have not.

Stan Bastman asked us to send out notification of receipt of funds for the Ancestor Wall.

#### **Regional Representative Reports:**

**Region One:**                **Ray Senior** – absent, no report.

**Region Two:**              **Peter Seaba** presented a written report, attached.

- Region Three:** **Pat Border** presented a verbal report. Scott Co didn't hold a meeting. Muscatine is busy – they are in a transition trying to keep things going. Jackson Co is busy but I haven't been able to visit. I have not been able to connect with anyone in Jones Co.
- Region Four:** **Al Miller** – absent, no report.
- Region Five:** **Don and Toni Mulert** – absent, no report.
- Region Six:** **Chuck Prickett** presented a written report, attached.
- Region Seven:** **Patricia Bernard** presented a written report. Report attached.
- Region Eight:** **Ted Lussem** presented a written report, attached.
- Region Nine:** **Evelyn Brightman** presented a written report, attached.
- Region Ten:** **Jane Briley** – absent (at the State Fair Booth), no report.
- Region Eleven:** **Bill Lees** presented a verbal report. Green Co has withdrawn from the Revenue Sharing plan. Expressed concern about the program which was started about 1975. Suggested that the revenue sharing plan be broken out in the treasurer's report. He said that if we do not get current on revenue sharing, he is afraid that more chapters will opt out. He seconded Margaret's concern that we be more direct in our communication with the chapters about the situation to keep them on board and connected.
- Region Twelve:** **Grace Hertz** – absent, written report presented, attached.
- Region Thirteen:** **Stan Bastman** presented a written report, attached. Stan reported that Darrell Easton is taking chemotherapy. He is still active, but he is in the process of disposing of his collection. Greater Sioux Co. Genealogical Society has not yet broken ground on their new library. The city asked the society to help on the design of the new library, and they will have their own room in the new library.
- Region Fourteen:** **Janice Danielson** presented a verbal report. Written report to be submitted. Janice expressed concern with the tightening of records going into effect January 1<sup>st</sup> as a result of the Patriot Act. Computer Genies met in Storm Lake. Storm Lake has a new genealogical library.
- Region Fifteen:** **Adrian Brisee** presented a written report, attached.
- Region Sixteen:** Vacant, no report.
- Historian:** **Margaret Foster** Nothing additional to her remarks earlier.

Executive Board Meeting: October 6, 2005 (Thursday of the Conference – 4:30 pm at the IGS Library.  
Board of Directors Meeting: November 12, 2005

Closing comments: George expressed that his focus has been to keep the doors open and the staff paid. He said that he has had to let some things go by the wayside as a result. He asked for understanding. He expressed personal thanks for the members who have stepped up with sizeable donations.

Bill said that he attended a national congress in July which adopted a resolution that went to President Bush requesting that these (vital) records be open to genealogists. Clerks of court are using these restrictions as an excuse to lighten their workload. He called on members to raise

**Motion** by Janice that we draft a resolution to be sent to the Governor voicing our concerns about this situation. **Second** by Ted. **Motion carried.**

**Adjournment: Motion** to adjourn by Stan, **second** by Ted. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 1:22 pm.