

Meeting of the Executive Board of the Iowa Genealogical Society

January 8, 2005 IGS Library

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society ("IGS") Board of Directors was held Saturday, January 8, 2005, at the Iowa Genealogical Society Library in Des Moines. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by President Joyce Brown

Present: Joyce Brown, President; LuAnn Folkers, Executive Director; George Giesler, 1st Vice President; Fred DeVries, 2nd Vice President; Chuck Prickett, Treasurer; Margaret Foster, Historian; Bob Aubrey's Digital Voice Recorder, Secretary; and several other society members.

Minutes: There were no minutes of Previous Executive Board Meeting Thursday evening prior to the October conference.

Officer reports:

President – Joyce Brown

Joyce reported that financial concerns would dominate the discussion, and that some of these concerns would be dealt with in George's report.

First Vice President – George Giesler

M&P committee met on December 12, 2004. We will be continuing the same programs as last year. The holidays are a slow time for IGS.

Second Vice President – Fred DeVries

No report at this time.

Treasurer – Chuck Prickett

Report attached. Net income for 2004 was about \$-56, 500, of which nearly \$42,000 was depreciation which is not a cash expense. That leaves about \$15,000 that we were short.

Question about Long term leases – interest rates from 10 to 30% and most will be retired within five years.

Joyce moved that the Executive Board call a special meeting of the Board of Directors for January 22, 2005 to try to apprise the Board members of the financial issues facing IGS and get them to give some ideas and perhaps get more involved in the fund-raising efforts of the society. _____ seconded. Motion passed.

Joyce noticed that the fixed monthly expenses are about \$13,700 before we do anything else, and we have to work on fund-raising in order to meet this. Our inability to rent the west wing has hurt us.

Fred suggested that we also look at the lease agreements to see what our options are in terms of paying down or purchasing early. Some discussion of fund-raising specifically to purchase our leased equipment, or to negotiate a loan. Joyce asked Fred to get together with Rod Powell to review the leases and present the analysis at the board meeting.

Revenue from the third memorial panel has been used for our mortgage. The board itself cannot be made until it is full (it is about half full right now), and has been partially paid for in advance.

George mentioned that he has been saying for years that we cannot afford this building unless we do

Iowa Genealogical Society

Membership Application

Membership Benefits:

- Hawkeye Heritage journal
- Bi-monthly IGS Newsletter
- Free Hawkeye Heritage queries
- Free use of IGS Library



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We have a variety of opportunities including some that can be completed at home. Would you be interested in volunteering? Yes No Maybe

Thank you!

fund-raising. We did no fund-raising in 2004. Joyce said that to keep the building we must move forward: we must get enthusiastic and creative about fund-raising, and get as many people, board and members, involved in this process. This is the reality.

Executive Director – LuAnn Folkers

LuAnn said she has been working on grants, and has at least five different projects identified. The grants would be for specific expenses.

LuAnn has gotten an estimate on re-doing the roof over the library (exclusive of the west wing), and it came to about \$70,000 for a new rubber liner, and for adding a pitch to the roof. A large part of that is the cost of the crane required to remove and re-place the AC units.

We have sent out renewal reminders in November. We have received about \$1000 as a direct result of the fund-raising letter, and many people are including extra donations with their membership renewals.

The snack vending machine is gone because the company wasn't doing enough business. We own the beverage vending machine.

We will be going to an electronic newsletter, with optional printed newsletter for those who don't have e-mail or who specifically request a printed newsletter.

Question raised about the relative cost of printing and mailing the newsletter ourselves with volunteers instead of farming it out. The numbers will be crunched and presented to the Board when we see how many printed newsletters are involved.

Joyce said that Ted Lessum is our Building coordinator. He has worked with LuAnn regarding the roof and the snow removal.

Education – Linda Greethorst

Printed report presented and included.

FGS Report – Joyce Brown

We are a charter member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and Joyce is going to ask someone else to take up the role of FGS representative.

Historian – Margaret Foster

At the moment, efforts are going toward the 40th anniversary, rather than in the Historian Notebook.

Library Committee – Dale Gurwell

Printed report presented and included.

Membership and Publicity – George Giesler

In December we tried to come up with ideas where we could return value for people's contributions rather than simply asking for donations. The cookbook is our first effort. IGS should make \$10 on each and the goal is to sell 3000 of them this year. We are selling them for \$17.50. The deadline for submissions is January 31st. This is also an effort that will be done in-house and will require volunteer efforts. They will be printed as needed.

Second fund-raising project is Joyce's idea for our 40th anniversary: *Celebrate Your Heritage: Come Home to Iowa*. We will have a pledge drive running from April to July. For a \$25 pledge your name will be placed in a raffle with the grand prize being a year's subscription to Ancestry.com. Our goal was 1000 pledges which would raise \$25,000. If all our members help with these two projects, we will bring in much needed money.

We are continuing with Lives and Times. There is no budget for the M&P committee. Any events we do will be self-funding. We will be in the Skywalk Golf Tournament in February. We rent a "hole" in the system and it gives us a chance to place the library and the society before the public. We will be in the St. Patrick's Day Parade and the State Fair Parade. We will do the Lunch and Learn again. The rolling slumber party will go to Chicago November 1st to 3rd. George said he is trying to get the Chicago Genealogical Society to host us. There will be a lot of things for us to do in Chicago.

We have discussed going to Fort Wayne the next year. Our bus trip to KC was very well received.

The calendar of events is on the website.

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We will start Bingo in the west wing on January 17th from 6 to 8 pm. We have permits and are enlisting volunteers for bake items. We will go weekly till March 17th and then reassess.

Revenue Sharing – Larry Benedict

No report. Joyce said that Larry has been ill. Although revenues have been down, they have been respectable.

George said that by the end of February we hope to have all the publications on CD and available for sale on the website.

Webmaster – George Giesler

We are still averaging about 2200 hits a day. bCentral is generating revenue.

New Business:

Joyce said we have an application from the Walnut Genealogical Society in Walnut Iowa to become a chapter. Joyce moved that we pass it on to the Board of Directors for acceptance, George seconded. Motion carried.

George moved for adjournment at 11:55 am, _____ seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert J. Aubrey, Secretary

**EDUCATION REPORT
Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, January 8, 2005**

Due to the weather, my daughter-in-law 's surgery, and the death of my father-in-law, I have not been able to get to the IGS to set up the 2005 class schedule. Hopefully, this will be accomplished on Monday or Tuesday of next week.

Last year 112 people attended the Genealogy 101 class; 25 attended Gen. 201 and 35 attended Gen. 301. Saturday mornings and Thursday mornings were the best attended overall and Tuesday evenings were mixed - either very good attendance or very low.

I plan to continue offering 101 every month and the other two quarterly. Marieta Grissom is also going to be teaching some specialty classes each quarter and Theresa Liewer is planning on also teaching some specialty classes quarterly.

Linda Greethurst

**LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT
January 6, 2005**

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