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## IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY REGULAR QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 10, 2007

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Board was held Saturday, February 10, 2007 at the IGS Library Conference Room in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Present:** Theresa Liewer, President; Joyce Brown, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Dennis Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Ted Lussem, Region 8 Representative; Betty Cross, Region 9 Representative; Sandra Leininger, Region 10 Representative; Judy McClure, Region 11 Representative; Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Representative.

**IGS Members Present:** Jean Babcock, Dennis Davies, Dolly Flynn, Margaret Foster, Marcia Guffey, Margaret Foster, Karen Hanley, Tom McGarvey, Billie Murano, Cris Nagla, Duane Pierce, Helen Phillips, Elizabeth Williams

1. **Call to Order** at 10:00 a.m. by President Liewer.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Ted Lussem moved to adopt the agenda, Sandra Leininger seconded, **motion carried**. See Attachment 1.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** This was tabled until later in the meeting when copies could be obtained for the board.
4. **Appointment of Secretary and Region 1 Representative:** Diane Densmore volunteered for the Office of Secretary and Phyllis Rothlauf volunteered for Region 1 Representative. Joyce Brown moved to accept these two people for the respective board positions; Adrian Brisee seconded; **motion carried**.
5. **President's Report:** President Liewer reported about her meeting last month with Ralph Crandall from the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and their fundraising efforts. Our monthly challenge grant is being met by several generous members. The IGS newsletter is getting positive reviews. IGS is being advertised in the Des Moines Register newspaper for events, meetings and classes.
6. **Financial Report:** President Liewer reported that we are in a stronger cash position now than at the end of December 2006. Our revenues are down from 2005 to 2006. The mortgage interest is down \$5000. We were unable to make all 12 payments on our leases. We made about 6 payments and hopefully these will be paid off next year. Our mortgage balance as of December 31, 2006 is \$550,447.62. We have \$68,358 on loan from members from the Capital Campaign. See Attachment 2.
7. **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Report:** Joyce Brown reported having a signed contract with Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak as the speaker for the 2007 fall conference which will again be held in Marshalltown, Iowa.
8. **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:** Dennis Allen is currently in contact with State Senator Paul McKinley, Lucas County, who serves on the Administrative Rules Committee concerning the closing of Iowa vital records. Senator McKinley is in contact with Jill France with the State

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Department of Health. Dennis also emphasized the need to look at ways to save money in the IGS budget.

## 8b. Regional Representative Reports

- a. **Region 6 Report:** Pat Bernard, Temporary Representative.  
See Attachment 3.
- b. **Region 7 Report:** Pat Bernard, Region 7 Representative.  
See Attachment 4.
- c. **Region 12 Report:** Grace Hertz, Region 12 Representative.  
See Attachment 5.
- d. **Region 11 Report:** Judy McClure, Region 11 Representative, reported on Greene County newsletters. Guthrie County is keeping Judy updated. Madison County is becoming more active and may be forming a cemetery association.
- e. **Region 8 Report:** Ted Lussem, Region 8 Representative, reported of the disbanding of the Pioneers Sons and Daughters Genealogical Society due to lack of members. Their research became the property of IGS and their revenue sharing monies owed to them by IGS have been forgiven. See Attachment 6.
- f. **Region 15 Report:** Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Representative, reported that Exira and Nishnabotna societies are dwindling. Harrison County does not meet during the winter months. He was unable to find a contact for Onawa. Crawford County has 8 members. Carroll County remains active.
- g. **Region 9 Report:** Betty Cross, Region 9 Representative, contacted each of her groups. They all appreciated Dennis Davies providing data on the sale of their publications. See Attachment 7.
- h. **Region 10 Report:** Sandra Leininger, Region 10 Representative, would like a list of educational videos to distribute to the different regions. See Attachment 8.

## 9. Staff Reports

- a. Billie Murano, Librarian, presented a written report of library projects and attendance. We acquired 573 books in calendar year 2006 with an estimated insurance value of \$12,439.92. The research staff earned \$4,289. Ancestry.com is up and running. See Attachment 9.
- b. Helen Phillips, Library Committee Chairman, presented a recommendation of a \$1.00 charge, per capita, be implemented for those groups of students, scouts, 4-H, etc. using the IGS Library. See Attachment 10. This charge would not cover copying and/or printing costs. Ted Lussem made a motion that the Board implement this charge, Betty Cross seconded, **motion carried**.

## 10. Committee Reports

- a. **Building Committee:** Ted Lussem reported the cost of plowing snow from our parking lot is \$100 per occurrence. There is a small ceiling leak in the back office that Marcia Martin is following.

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- b. **Publicity Committee:** Elizabeth Williams reported on-going efforts using newspaper, and in the future, radio. Our events are being put on the WHO-TV and KCCI-TV website's "Community Calendars".
- c. **Ancestor Memorial Wall Committee:** Elizabeth Williams will be putting an article in the newsletter and sending letters to the previous donors to solicit information of information on the names on the plaques
- d. **Volunteer Committee:** Margaret Foster reported on bringing in volunteers as needed in the absence of our "snowbird" volunteers.
- e. **Historian Committee:** Margaret Foster reported that the IGS History Book is complete and available in the library.
- f. **Revenue Sharing Committee:** Dennis Davies reported that we have 2,148 publications for sale. Sales are decreasing as more free information is available on the internet.
- g. **Website Committee:** Dennis Davies reported that he had put a link on our website for Goodsearch.com as suggested by Diane Densmore. This website will pay a penny per internet search to us. One computer has been added to the library for patron use, bringing the total to five. We have two more computers that can be added.
- h. **Events Committee:** Marcia Guffey reported that the Events Committee will be meeting with the Publicity Committee in order to coordinate their efforts. There will be two open houses in February for President's Day, a March Madness membership drive and contest, a garage sale on April 27 and 28 as well as a slumber party on April 28. All ideas and volunteers are welcome.
- i. **Newsletter Committee:** Chris Nagla has published two newsletters this year. The next due date for submissions is March 16.
- f. **Hawkeye Heritage Committee:** Dave McDonald is to email Dennis Allen a copy this week, so that Dennis may obtain printing bids.
- g. **Education Committee:** Diane Densmore was asked to chair.
- h. **Membership Committee:** Dennis Allen was asked to chair.
- g. **Nominating Committee:** No report. This committee consists of Margaret Foster, Dennis Davies, Nicoe Hart and Sue Rezek.
- h. **ByLaws Committee:** Jean Babcock, Chair, presented the Board with a copy of the proposed ByLaws for the Board to study before the next Board meeting. Her committee of Theresa Liewer, Karen Hanley and Helen Phillips worked a year to make the proposed changes.

The Board recessed for 15 minutes from noon until 12:15pm

## 10. Old Business

- a. **Endowment Fund:** No report
- b. **Ancestry.com:** Ancestry is up and running for patron use in the library.

## 11. New Business

- a. **State Fair 2007:** After discussion, it was felt that this is still a worthwhile project. Four board members offered donations to pay the \$1000 fee.
- b. **2007 Budget:** This report was presented by President Liewer. It is a work in progress. Ted Lussem moved that the Board adopt the budget as presented; Adrian Brisee seconded, **motion carried**. See Attachment 11.
- c. **Access to Official Records:** Dennis Allen will meet with State Senator Paul McKinley. Discussion of putting this information in the newsletter and encouraging the membership to write their state representatives also took place.

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- d. **Invitation to Regional Representative:** Billie Murano invited the Regional Representatives to work in the IGS library for a couple of hours to orient themselves further to our operations.
- e. **Footnote.com:** Adrian Brisee asked the Board members to peruse this website for their opinion of our possible use of it to generate revenue.

**12. Executive Session** for the purpose of personnel issues.

**13. Executive Session** ended at 2:05 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Densmore, Secretary, Iowa Genealogical Society