

MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF THE
IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, April 21, 2007
West Wing

The regular quarterly meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Executive Board was held Saturday, April 21, 2007 in the West Wing of the IGS Library in Des Moines, Iowa.

Present: Theresa Liewer, President; Dennis Allen, 2nd Vice President; Diane Densmore, Secretary; and Ted Lussem, Representative for the Regions.

Other IGS Members Present: Jean Babcock, Pat Border, Marcia Guffey, Marcia Martin, Cris Nagla, Helen Phillips, Duane Pierce, Elizabeth Williams

1. **Call to Order** at 9:35 a.m. by Theresa Liewer, President.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – approved as written.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Ted Lussem moved to waive the reading of the minutes. Dennis Allen seconded the motion. **Motion carried.** Minutes were approved as written.
4. **Resignation of 1st Vice President** – See Attachment 1. Joyce Brown's resignation was accepted with sincere appreciation for all of her dedicated work for IGS.
5. **President's Report** – See Attachment 2. Theresa Liewer has done several presentations and classes since the last board meeting. Finances continue to be a major focus, as well as finding members to step forward and take offices in the future.
6. **Financial Report** - See Attachment 3. We currently have \$16, 535 in cash, but the utility bill has not yet been paid. Our water bill is about \$80 per month. This is typically the time of year when our cash flow goes down because the majority of membership dues were paid last year. The mortgage interest has increased \$2500 to \$3400 because of the interest rate change. Ted Lussem made a motion to accept the financial statement; Dennis Allen seconded. **Motion carried.**
7. **2nd Vice President's Report** – See Attachment 4. Dennis continues to work with the Iowa State legislature to prevent the closing of Iowa vital records to genealogists. A petition was included in the latest newsletter and these need to be returned by July.
8. **Staff Report** – Billie Murano was unable to attend the meeting but submitted the library report in writing. See Attachment 5.

9. Committee Reports

- a. **Grant Committee** – Marcia Martin talked about a possible monthly credit card donation. Diane Densmore reported on her attendance of a fundraising class. See Attachment 6. Discussion followed.
- b. **Building Committee** – Ted Lussem reported a new roof leak in Debi Chase’s office. There are still two other roof leaks, one above the lockers and one in the northeast corner of the west wing.
- c. **Events Committee** – Marcia Guffey reported on several events. Joyce Brown taught a class at the 50+ Lifestyle event held at Merle Hay Mall in Des Moines. “Picnic with Your Ancestor” will be May 5th and is an opportunity for members to research all day. We will have table display at the Governor’s Conference on Aging. There will be a total of four presentations in May and June at retirement homes in the Des Moines area. Marcia is also mailing our class, activities, and conference schedules to 55 libraries in the central Iowa area. Our garage sale is next weekend.
- d. **Publicity Committee** – Elizabeth Williams reported that they continue to make progress. They hope to get postings in genealogical publications and photos of the slumber party in the Des Moines Register.
- e. **Ancestry Memorial Wall Committee** – Elizabeth Williams reported that they have contacted individual donors and have received quite a few replies to donate information. They will now begin to contact the groups who have purchased lines and continue to promote the sale of the remaining lines.
- f. **Education Committee** – See Attachment 7. Diane Densmore reported that classes have been scheduled through July. She asked the Board to approve keeping the Beginning Genealogy and Beginning Internet classes free of charge, but all other classes would cost \$5 for IGS members and \$10 for non-members. The Board approved.
- g. **Veteran’s Group** – Duane Pierce reported that three people attended their initial meeting. Their second meeting meets April 28 and he hopes to have a better attendance because of internet mailing lists and a Rootsweb website.
- h. **Region 3 Report** – Pat Border, Regional Representative, was in attendance today as she will be unable to attend next month’s Board meeting. Scott County is having their annual conference today. They also will be having an after hours research time at the Davenport library on April 29th. Muscatine County meets next Thursday with informal classes. Burlington had their conference last weekend in a new library.
- i. **Nominating Committee** – See Attachment 8. Margaret Foster was unable to attend the meeting today, but submitted her report in writing. Finding people to fill Board vacancies continues to be a problem.
- j. **Newsletter Committee** – Cris Nagla reported the deadline for items for the next newsletter is May 15. The Board will discuss the possibility of emailing newsletters to save postage at the May board meeting.

10. Old Business

- a. **Endowment Fund** – No report
- b. **Hawkeye Heritage** – Theresa Liewer reported that we now have a hard copy ready to go to printers. It will be mailed before the May 15th increase in postage rates. The publication will also be sent to old members along with a letter inviting them to rejoin.
- c. **Ancestry.com** – Theresa Liewer reported we collected \$180 for the months of February and March. The Family History Library in West Des Moines has agreed to allow us to post a sign there to let researchers know that IGS has ancestry.com, since the Family History Library no longer subscribes to it.
- d. **Fall Conference** – Theresa Liewer reported that planning continues. The speaker and motels are set.

11. New Business

- a. **Irish Conference** – Theresa Liewer reported that the Irish Interest Group is planning their first conference. Speakers will be Brian Trainer and Fintan Mullin from the Ulster Historical Foundation in Belfast, Ireland. It will be held Wednesday, June 20 at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Des Moines, at the corner of Beaver Avenue and Forest Avenue.
- b. **LDS Indexing Project** – Theresa Liewer reported that LDS would like us to start with a small project such as Old Age Assistance records, death records or GAR records.
- c. **Sorenson DNA Project** – Theresa Liewer reported that Sorenson DNA project wants IGS to participate. They will provide sample kits and the information would be entered into their database.
- d. **Fundraising Class** – Diane Densmore gave her report in during the Grant Committee report.
- e. **New Chapter** – Kossuth County has joined IGS as a new chapter and we welcome them.

12. **ByLaws** – Theresa Liewer reported that there are five major changes in the proposed ByLaws: the makeup of the Board, membership application and approval, voting, associate membership and special interest groups. General discussion followed.

13. **Adjournment** – Ted Lussem made a motion to adjourn; Dennis Allen seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Densmore, Secretary