

MEETING OF THE  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
OF THE  
IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Saturday, October 20, 2007

The regular meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Executive Board was held Saturday, October 20, 2007 in the IGS library conference room in Des Moines, Iowa.

**Present:** Theresa Liewer, President; Denise Gripp, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Dennis Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Barbara Hug, Treasurer; Diane Densmore, Secretary; and Ted Lussem, Representative for the Regions.

**Other IGS Members Present:** Cris Nagla

1. **Call to Order** at 10:00 a.m. by President Liewer.
2. **Adoption of agenda** – Ted Lussem moved to adopt the agenda; Dennis Allen seconded. **Motion carried.**
3. **Reading and approval of Executive Committee minutes from July 14, 2007** – Ted Lussem moved to waive the reading of the minutes and approve the minutes as written and distributed by email to the committee. Dennis Allen seconded. **Motion carried.**
4. **President's report** – (See Attachment 1) President Liewer expressed gratitude to those who volunteered and helped with the fall conference. She has attended a conference given by the Keo-Mah society, given presentations at Madison County and Marshalltown. She has been teaching the genealogy classes at the Robert D. Ray Life-Long Learning Program at Drake University. Last Wednesday, Theresa was interviewed in the library by KCCI television for a future news report. Her current main concern is finding people to fill the committees for the coming year.
5. **Treasurer's report** – (See Attachments 2 and 3) Barbara Hug reported that we have \$27,359.84 in the checking account, part of which is from the Polk County grant, which is designated to pay on the mortgage. We currently owe \$14,093.46.
6. **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's report** – (See Attachment 4 – 2 pages) Denise Gripp reported that the fall conference was a success. We had approximately 160 attendees. She presented an overview of the survey comments. People are split 50-50 in their suggestions for a location change, Marshalltown vs. Des Moines. Suggested topics for next year's seminar included ethnic/international, local/regional resources and internet sites/tools, among several others. She has already compiled a list of possible speakers for next year. Although all bills have

not yet been paid, it appears that we will net an income of about \$5,975 from this year's conference.

7. **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President's report** – Dennis Allen reported that he is still working with Gordon Hendrickson from the State Historical Society about the open records law. Dennis will now be chairman of the Membership Committee as stated in the new by-laws. He has taught two beginning internet classes this fall.
8. **Staff reports** – (See Attachment 5 – 4 pages) This written report submitted by Billie Murano showed a decline of 184 member users and a decline of 18 non-member users over the same 9 month time period compared to last year. Diane Densmore reported that Hazel Demirjean has catalogued 70 family histories from the Marilyn Everman collection and has now begun the cataloguing of the rest of that collection. Theresa Liewer reported that we have collected \$893 year-to-date from patron use of Ancestry.com. That bill of about \$1700 will be due in January.

#### 9. **Committee Reports**

- a. **Building Committee** – Ted Lussem reported that we still have a roof leak in the back office. No one has been able to contact the roofer who did the repairs and we can only assume he is no longer in business. Ted explained that the hole on the northeast corner on the outside of the building is not a structural issue. He has contacted the same man to do the snow plowing this year, again for \$100 per plowing of the parking lot. Ted and Larry Solomon are resigning from their grounds keeping duties and Ken Kerr has agreed to take over.
- b. **Education Committee** – (See Attachment 6) Diane Densmore reported that 60 people attended 5 classes in September and 20 people attended 3 classes so far in October. Theresa Liewer reported that an Italian cultural class has been scheduled for February 2, 2008. As per the new by-laws, this committee will now be chaired by the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.
- c. **Newsletter** – Cris Nagla reported that the deadline for the next issue is November 15.

#### 10. **Old business**

- a. **Endowment fund** – No report
- b. **Fall Conference** – This topic was discussed earlier in this meeting during the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President's report.
- c. **LDS indexing project** – Theresa Liewer said she is still exchanging emails with the Salt Lake City organizer. Barbara Hug has agreed to be an administrator coordinator; it would be preferable to find another to share this responsibility. Diane Densmore agreed to be an arbitrator.
- d. **Ancestry Wall** – No report.

## 10. New business

- a. **Woodbury County letter about revenue sharing** – This county chapter has requested that we pay them in full and to return the original copies of their publications. The board agreed to do so.
- b. **Pass the Hat funds – revenue sharing checks** – Theresa Liewer reported that we collected about \$700 in passing the hat at the fall conference. The board discussed and approved how this money would be distributed.
- c. **Challenge to pay off equipment lease– German Interest Group:** Theresa Liewer reported that the German Interest Group has offered \$2000 until the end of the year as a challenge matching campaign to pay off our leases. This was announced at the fall conference and will be in the next newsletter.
- d. **NGS Kansas City bus trip** – Theresa Liewer reported that there is an interest in IGS members going to the National Genealogical Society conference in May 2008 in Kansas City. To contract with a bus company would cost \$73 per person for 30 people or \$55 per person for 40 people. This issue was discussed and the board agreed that IGS would only organize the transportation if enough people would sign up. Those wishing to go to the conference would be responsible for paying their conference fees and booking their own hotel rooms.
- e. **Italian American Cultural Group – co-sponsor class and tour** – Theresa Liewer reported that IGS member Kathy Foggia has volunteered to teach an Italian research class on Saturday, February 2, 2008. After a morning class at IGS, the attendees will have lunch at the Italian-American Cultural Center on Indianola Avenue in Des Moines and tour their facility in the afternoon.
- f. **Booth at Iowa Home Show? Jan 18-20, Varied Industries Building** – Theresa Liewer reported that it would cost \$75 for a booth for 3 days at this show. After discussion, Barbara Hug made a motion that IGS not participate in the Iowa Home Show; Ted Lussem seconded. **Motion carried.**
- g. **Implementation of new Bylaws** – Theresa Liewer addressed the significant changes of the new bylaws approved at the 2007 Annual Meeting held October 5<sup>th</sup>. Two board members are appointed to approve the minutes. Barbara Hug and Dennis Allen volunteered to approve the minutes of today's meeting. Dennis Allen, as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, is now the Chair of the Membership Committee. He will need to work with Debi Chase in presenting a list of new members at each board meeting to be received into membership. We will also need to work our way through the change of length of terms of the board members. Even numbered regional representatives are elected in an even numbered year and the odd numbered regional representatives in the odd numbered year. Because current representatives have already been elected before these bylaws were in place, they will need to be contacted as to how long they might be willing to serve.

**h. Committee chairs** – Theresa Liewer addressed the new Standing Committees as outlined in the new bylaws. These include Annual Session Planning, Auditing, Budget and Finance, Building and Grounds, Bylaws and Standing Rules, Education, Events, Library, Membership, IGS Publications, Publicity, Grants and Capital Campaign, Computers and Technology, and Revenue Sharing and Publication Sales. This will be a process that will need some time to work through. The members of the Executive Committee were asked to submit suggestions for filling these committee chairs and committees.

**11. Calendar** – Next Board Meeting is Saturday, November 10, 2007 at 10:00 a.m.

**12. Adjournment** – Ted Lussem made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Barbara **Hug** seconded. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Densmore, Secretary  
Iowa Genealogical Society

Minutes approved by electronic mail by Barbara Hug on October 30, 2007 and by Dennis Allen on November 5, 2007.