

**IOWA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Iowa Genealogical Society (IGS) Board was held Saturday, March 14, 2009 at the IGS Library Conference Room in Des Moines, Iowa.

Note: This meeting was postponed from February 14, 2009 due to inclement weather. Some reports submitted at this meeting are dated February 14, 2009.

Present: Barbara Hug, President; Ricki King, 1st Vice President; Kathy Gourley, 2nd Vice President; Diane Densmore, Secretary; Alan Neve, Region 2 Representative (Rep.); Pat Border, Region 3 Rep.; Mike Magee, Region 4 Rep.; Eileen Johnson, Region 7 Rep.; Nicoe Hart, Region 8 Rep.; Betty Cross, Region 9 Rep.; Saundra Leininger, Region 10 Rep.; Jim Lawton, Region 11 Rep.; Grace Hertz, Region 12 Rep.; Janice Danielson, Region 14 Rep.; Adrian Brisee, Region 15 Rep.; Linda Abercrombie, Region 16 Rep.; Margaret Foster, Chairman, Library Committee

IGS Members Present: LaWanda Nepstad, Carl Nollen

- 1. Call to order and determine quorum:** President Hug called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. A quorum was present.
- 2. Approve the agenda:** Mike Magee made a motion to approve the agenda. Saundra Leininger seconded. **Motion carried.**
- 3. Appoint a minutes review committee:** Pat Border and Janice Danielson volunteered to review the minutes of this meeting.
- 4. Reports**
 - a. President:** (See Attachment 1) President Hug attended training on the “Principles and Practices for Charitable Nonprofit Excellence” presented by the Iowa Nonprofit Center and encouraged all board members to attend this training. This would lend credibility to our society when applying for grants and other funding. President Hug introduced LaWanda Nepstad, IGS member, who has volunteered to be our Treasurer. Grace Hertz made a motion to appoint LaWanda Nepstad as Treasurer. Janice Danielson seconded. **Motion carried.**
 - b. Treasurer:** (See Attachment 2) LaWanda Nepstad presented the 1st quarter, 2009, report. Our total receipts were \$29,866 and our total expenses were \$29,387.
 - c. 1st Vice President:** (See Attachment 3) Ricki King reported on the class schedule for the first quarter of this year. She has procured our first speaker in reviving our “Lives and Times” series.

- d. 2nd Vice President:** (See Attachment 3A, 2 pages) Kathy Gourley reported 38 new members have joined since the last board meeting. Ricki King made a motion to accept these 38 members. Eileen Johnson seconded. **Motion carried.** Kathy has located three possible venues for our fall conference, pending a price quote from one. Jim Lawton moved that the Executive Committee be authorized to make the final decision for the fall conference facility choice. Nicoe Hart seconded. **Motion carried.**
- e. Regional Representatives**
- Region 2** – (See Attachment 4) Alan Neve reported that Washington County is anticipating a new location in a new library when it is built. Poweshiek County is indexing marriages and will be participating in the Montezuma Business Expo in March. Keo-Mah received a donation of \$10,000 to help pay the mortgage.
- Region 3** - (See Attachment 5) Pat Border reported that Scott County will be having their annual conference in Moline on April 18.
- Region 4** – Mike Magee reported that the Northeast Iowa Genealogical Society is working on a new website and presenting programs on computer use.
- Region 7** – Eileen Johnson reported that the chapters in her region cancelled most of their meetings this winter because of bad weather. Hamilton County is meeting today.
- Region 8** – (See Attachment 6) Nicoe Hart reported that the Story County chapter had a good turnout at their February meeting with a speaker from the ISU library. She plans on attending the Warren County and Jasper County meetings scheduled for later in March.
- Region 9** – (See Attachment 7) Betty Cross reported that Appanoose County plans to rewalk cemeteries and update cemetery records this spring. Davis County is reprinting the 1882 Davis County History book with a full index to sell for \$70.00. Lucas County had several new members join at their February meeting. Monroe County has three new members. Wapello County has a new computer for their members' use and are reorganizing their vertical files.
- Region 10** – (See Attachment 8) Sandra Leininger reported that Adams County is struggling to retain members. Union County is planning a research meeting to Independence, Missouri. Union County is also hosting the 2nd Annual Southwest Iowa Genealogical Meeting in Creston on April 28, 2009.
- Region 11** – (See Attachment 9) Jim Lawton reported that Greene County is currently raising funds to get Heritage Quest online for their members. Madison County is transcribing records at their courthouse.
- Region 12** – (See Attachment 10) Grace Hertz reported that Laurens Genies, Pocahontas Genies, Palo Alto County, Emmet County, Humboldt County, Webster County and Calhoun County all remain very active and enthusiastic groups. Kossuth County has a new website www.kossuthcountygenealogicalsociety.com

Region 14 – (See Attachment 11, 2 pages) Janice Danielson reported that Buena Vista County received \$800 from their county board of supervisors which bought 10 rolls of area town newspapers. Plymouth County continues to update cemetery records and index newspapers. Computer Genies of NW Iowa held a meeting at the Cherokee Mental Health Hospital to tour that facility's cemetery. Cherokee County regularly holds work days for indexing. Woodbury County is updating their cemetery records.

Region 15 - Adrian Brisee reported that Harrison County toured the Dodge Museum in Council Bluffs this winter. Carroll County is a little less active. The other counties in this region haven't met this winter.

Region 16 – (See Attachment 12, 2 pages) Linda Abercrombie reported that Cass County is going through a re-activation surge and is working on their first newsletter for this year.

f. Committees

i. Building and Grounds – President Hug reported that the roof is still leaking.

ii. Events – (See Attachment 13) Diane Densmore presented the report prepared for last month's cancelled meeting. The recent raffle raised \$424. There will be a slumber party March 21. She and Billie Murano have begun to price about 22 boxes of genealogy books for the June 13 and June 20 book sale. Diane has had to resign from this committee due to family issues.

iii. Publicity – President Hug held one session for Speaker's Bureau training in February.

iv. Hawkeye Heritage – President Hug reported that this publication was mailed in February. It cost about \$1700 to print and about \$700 to mail. Discussion followed about money saving possibilities for the next issue. President Hug made a motion to ask all IGS members how they would like to receive the newsletter and/or the *Hawkeye Heritage* in order to save money: 1) by post office mail 2) pick up at IGS library 3) email downloaded from IGS website or 4) not to receive one, the other, or neither. Nicoe Hart seconded. **Motion carried.**

v. Library – (See Attachment 14) Margaret Foster presented her written report to the board. Diane Densmore made a motion that in order to off-set the loss of copy machine money that we assess a \$3.00 member or \$5.00 for non-members daily fee to have and use a computer scanner, digital camera or other copying equipment in the library, effective Monday, March 16, 2009. Ricki King seconded. **Motion carried.** Nicoe Hart made a motion to charge a flat fee of \$5.00 per name of the scanned Polk County naturalizations and scanned obituaries on our website plus postage and handling charges. Jim Lawton seconded. **Motion carried.**

- vi. **Staff** – (See Attachment 15, 9 pages) President Hug reported the Jasper County Genealogical Society forgave their commission leaving a total of \$2,032.04 for the 2nd half of 2008, which is comparable with the 1st half of 2008. We have withdrawn duplication permissions for IGS publications that LDS has to keep them off of their internet sites. We received a donation of computer monitors and printers in February. Two of the patron monitors were replaced with the larger monitors as were any small office monitors. President Hug also reported that library attendance was down in 2008 when compared to 2007. 936 books were added to our shelves in 2008. Volunteer hours totaled 6300 hours in 2008.
- vii. **Others** – (See Attachment 16, 5 pages) President Hug reported that according to our bylaws, the four special interest groups (African-American, German, Irish and Norwegian) must submit yearly reports to the board. These reports were distributed to the board members. Information only.

5. Old Business

- a. **Endowment Fund:** No report
- b. **Blog set up:** Adrian Brisee reported that IGS would be better served by setting up a message board instead of a blog. This message board would be limited to IGS members. He stated that we would need to find someone who has the computer knowledge to do this. He has reserved the domain name “researchIowatogether” for IGS.
- c. **Facebook profile:** Ricki King reported that she has set up a trial Facebook profile on the internet for IGS. This will provide free publicity for our society and its events by social networking. Saundra Leininger made a motion to allow Ricki Grace Hertz seconded.
Motion carried.

6. New Business

- a. **Bylaw revisions:** President Hug reported that as the elected officers have tried to use the current set of bylaws, they are finding the bylaws sometimes confusing and contradicting. Saundra Leininger made a motion to approve rewriting the bylaws accompanied by standing rules, separating them into two separate documents. LaWanda Nepstad seconded. **Motion carried.**
- b. **Continued financing at IGS:** President Hug led an open discussion for ideas concerning raising revenue by fundraising, writing grants, and business contacts. A Des Moines Area Community College student has begun work on redesigning our website to make a “members only” section for genealogical data. It is hoped that this will retain our membership and encourage new membership. Jim Lawton made a motion to do a study to learn why previous members dropped their IGS membership. Adrian Brisee seconded. **Motion carried.** President Hug also encouraged board members to continue thinking about ways to cut costs.
- c. **Training for Speaker’s Bureau:** President Hug presented handouts of speaker’s notes that are a guideline for giving about a 30 minute presentation about IGS to clubs, organizations, schools, retirement homes, etc.

7. Adjournment: Grace Hertz made a motion to adjourn. Alan Neve seconded.
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Diane Densmore
Secretary

Minutes approved (See Attachment 17, 2 pages) by Janice Danielson and Pat Border by email.