

Historical Society of Greater Lansing  
January 14, 2014  
Meeting Minutes  
Lansing City Hall

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President, Valerie Marvin.

**Attendance:**

Val Marvin, Bill Castanier, Anne Wilson, Tim Kaltenbach, Zig Olds, Jesse Lasorda, Erik Nelson, and Ron Emery. Those absent were Nathalie Winans, Adina J. Langer, Harry Emmons, and Joan Bauer.

**Review and approval of minutes from November Meeting:**

On motion by Anne, seconded by Jesse, the minutes were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Tim presented a written summary of both the General Fund and the Museum Fund balances. A copy will be attached to the official minutes. The balance in the General Fund as of December 31, 2013 is \$4,969.55. The balance in the Museum Fund is \$38,867.27. Tim has placed all moneys in the feeder fund in the General Fund so there is no balance in that fund at this time. Tim estimated that the final cost of postage and printing of the Explorer Newsletter for fiscal year 2013 will be a little over \$1200. (printing = \$572; postage = \$.46 \* 12 months \* 120 members = \$613) This amount will approximate 28% of the HSGL's income for 2013. Tim will provide a detailed summary of 2013 budget at the March meeting.

On motion by Jesse, seconded by Tim, the Treasurer's report was accepted for filing.

For budget year 2014, Tim reported that he expects fewer equipment purchases in the next fiscal year and the lease for the Creyts location ends in March. Val will discuss continuation of lease under the same terms with the landlord, Dave Muylle. Val believes Muylle will agree to this continuation.

**November 20<sup>th</sup> letter to Sandra Clark:**

Ron advised that he hand delivered this letter to Ms. Clark's office in the State Archives and Museum Bldg and delivered a copy to Mark Harvey at his office. Val reported that there has been no response to the letter. A copy of the letter is in the records of the HSGL.

### **Business Memberships:**

Val reported that Glenn Williams from *Tenor Clock Repair* approached her about what their group would get if they purchased a business membership. Currently, there is only one regular business membership purchased by Tim Baron. Val felt we need to revise business memberships to provide more advertising for these in order to curry more business memberships. Possible options are placing decals on event signs, placing notices on the back page of the newsletter, placing ads on the website, sponsors name on an exhibit case, placing the business name at the bottom or top of newsletters, or designating a business as the sponsor of the newsletter for one month of the year. Each board member will be expected to contact 5 businesses to solicit their membership. Val will circulate a sample of the advertising options available to business memberships.

### **Merchandising HSGL articles:**

Val also raised the possibility of using HSGL articles to help fund our activities. Zig suggested merchandising things like highway signs, small signs, or tee shirts with the HSGL logo on it.

Jim Perkins, who currently owns an oil painting of City Hall, has given it to HSGL to offer it in return for a donation. We discussed the possibility of making copies of a painting and offer these to members or to the public in return for a donation.

On motion by Tim, seconded by Bill, the board authorized Val to spend up to \$500 to get copies of the Perkins painting made to offer them for sale to members and the public. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Turner Dodge/City Hall:**

Val indicated that she will be meeting with the Board of the Turner Dodge House. That board on behalf of the City is interested in transferring the mansion to someone else's operation. Indeed, Val says the city is "begging" HSGL to take over the building. Val believes that it is not prudent for HSGL to "take over" the mansion at this time. When Val meets the board, she simply wants to discuss with them setting up some HSGL exhibits in some of the mansion's rooms. The sense of the board was that Val should discuss the latter and not suggest that HSGL take over the mansion.

The sense of the board also is that we should continue to use the first-floor space where the "Lansing Votes" exhibit is currently set up at City Hall for other exhibits and events throughout the coming year.

### **Capital Area Foundation:**

Bill suggested that we encourage this foundation to issue a grant to set up an all-day conference to get various historical groups together to work on joint projects.

**Potential merger with the East Lansing Historical Society:**

Val explained that some former members of this formerly active, now moribund organization are interested in merging with the HSGL. She will pursue this informally with several of those members.

**Lansing Votes Exhibit:**

The exhibit will open on Monday night February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Volunteers will be needed for that event which will occur at the same time a City Council meeting will be held. After that volunteers will be needed on Wednesdays at noon time. Val will solicit volunteers from the board and from members over the internet.

**Loan Agreement Form:**

Val distributed a copy of the newest edition of a loan agreement accompanied by a copy of the Museum Disposition of Property Act governing museum accession and disposition of property loaned or donated to a library or museum. This is the form HSGL now uses.

**Adjournment:**

On motion by Tim, seconded by Zig, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Ron Emery  
Secretary