

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, March 20, 2018
1922 Moores River Drive, Lansing, Mi

President Bill Castanier called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present: Valerie Marvin, Bill Castanier, Bob Rose, Mary Kwas, Joan Bauer, Zig Olds, Jacob McCormick, Anne Wilson, Tim Kaltenbach and Ron Emery.

Absent: None

Guest: None

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting had been e-mailed to all for review in advance of the meeting. Except for an incorrect spelling of Bill's last name once, on motion by Val, seconded by Joan, the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report:

Tim passed out a one page Treasurers report that showed the fund balances as follows as of this date: General Fund \$15,792.54; Museum Fund \$100,989.79. Tim reported the need to open an account with Huntingdon Bank in order to purchase a \$50,000 CD for 19 months with a return of 2.2%. This will be from the Museum fund. Tim also reported that \$3,500 is encumbered from the general fund to pay for a State Historical marker for the Wing House on Moores River Drive. Jim Perkins advised Bill that there are no prohibitions to this type construction project. Bill will confirm this with Sue Statack of the City Zoning office.

On motion by Joan, seconded by Ron the treasurers' report was accepted and placed on file.

Old Business:

Update on Trustee contact information:

Bill asked trustees to provide updated contact information.

Trustee Board member search:

Bill asked for names of potential new trustees. He pointed out that we really need a more diversified membership and suggested some names and sought others. Several names were floated. Two more trustees are needed. These names will need to be included on the annual meeting ballot and a slate of candidates including officers announced in the May meeting. The annual meeting has not yet been scheduled but must be held in June, preferable before June 18th, as Tim will be out of state there after in June.

Home tour:

Joan reported that she needs a committee to ID potential commercial and private donors for the Moores River Drive home tour this fall (September 16th). Bill, Ron, Tim, Anne and Joan volunteered.

Bill also reported receiving an e-mail from Bill Adcock of the REO Olds Museum who had coordinated the appearance of old cars at the home tour last September. Adcock expressed some dissatisfaction that REO Olds and its car owners had not been given any remuneration for their presence at the tour. He further stated that he had to pay for four meals at the event for car owners. But Bill and others noted that they actually were given tickets and a meal at the country club. Tim will confirm that there was expenditure for that purpose. Members were concerned about Adcock's concerns and wanted our response to be measured. Joan said that she would like to approach Adcock about co-sponsoring the event this fall as she would like them there again, but not if we have to pay a lot to get them there. Zig and others felt that if there is an expense for the car owners that the HSGL should cover that. Val and Joan agreed to meet with Adcock and then report back.

Federal Parks Grant:

The City and HSGL co-sponsored a grant application for a presentation on the story of I-496 and its affect on neighborhoods. The City was included because the feds required an organization that has been audited. The grant was awarded two weeks ago.

Downtown Sign Project:

Bob reported that Downtown Lansing Inc. has given HSGL permission to post historical information on 3'x 1' signs at nine locations in downtown Lansing. These are fixed sites around town. There will also be more signs posted at 12 Kiosks on street corners. Most of these will be on Washington Avenue so that they will be accessible to pedestrians. Bob will compile a list of the locations.

Audit Contract:

Ron reported that we had received a proposal from Layton & Richardson to do a review engagement of our books and records. The distinction between this and a full audit was discussed. On motion by Anne, seconded by Zig, the board unanimously authorized Bill to sign and return the contract to Layton & Richardson to begin the process.

Lansing Police Department Anniversary:

Bill reported that we need to set up our exhibit on Friday May 4th before noon, and he needs volunteers. The exhibit will open that evening. Volunteers will be needed for two shifts on Saturday to staff a table, one shift from 9:30 AM to 1:30PM, and another from 1:30 PM to 5PM. After that the exhibit will move to City Hall for the June 2nd Tourist in Your Own Home Town event. Val solicited volunteers and noted their names.

Work at the Archives:

Bill asked for volunteers to assist in repainting our storage area at the REO Olds warehouse.

Turner-Dodge:

Bill reported that he had talked to Brett Kaschinske of the City Parks and Recreation Department about Turner -Dodge and our concerns from last meeting. Kaschinske reported that he had talked to Chris Swope, City Clerk, who assured Brett that the clerk's office would address these concerns.

New Business:

Annual Award nominees:

Bill sought suggestions for our annual award to be made at the annual meeting. Names suggested included Win Stebbins and his wife, Geneva Wiskemann, and Dave Muylle. We then discussed whether the award should go to someone who has recently contributed to the HSGL rather than someone who has done so over a lifetime, i.e. Geneva. Bob felt the award should go to the former category of contributors, and we recognize those who have done so over a longer period through some kind of public acknowledgement. We need to determine an award winner by the May meeting.

Michigan Historical Conference:

Val reported that this conference would be taking place in Lansing on May 19th -21st. She suggests that we give to the conferees on one of those days flyers printed up with upcoming HSGL events listed on them. She also suggested that we pass these out at the police anniversary event to advertise our walking tours and other events.

Adjournment:

On motion by Tim seconded by Zig the meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM. The next meeting will be scheduled for May.

Ron Emery

/S/

Secretary

Approved at May 7, 2018 meeting