

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER LANSING
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, May 7, 2018
604 W. Lapeer Drive, Lansing, Mi

President Bill Castanier called the meeting to order at 7:04 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: **Guests:** 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 three last names on page one and on page three, on motion by Joan, seconded by Anne, 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 \$11,303.67; Museum Fund \$50,982.84. Tim also reported that HSGl now owned a \$50,000 CD through Huntingdon Bank for 22 months with a return of 2.2%. On motion by Joan, seconded by Val the treasurers' report was accepted and placed on file by unanimous vote.

Old Business:

Report on Police Anniversary

Bill reported that the anniversary program was both well attended and well received. The Chief of Police was especially pleased. Sgt. Justin Moore, LPD Quarter master was instrumental in working with HSGl in setting up and taking down the exhibit.

Annual Meeting Election Slate:

Val reported that the annual election slate has been completed and will be offered to the general membership for a vote on June 14th. The slate includes new terms for Mary and Zig as Trustees, new trustees Catherine Babcock and Helen Mickens, and Bill, Val, Tim and Ron to run again for their current officer positions. Anne and Jacob will be present to preside over the election portion of the meeting. Anne moved, seconded by Ron, to approve the slate. The motion was unanimously approved

Abrams Foundation:

Bill reported that the foundation board membership from the Abrams family had changed. They no longer were interested in our historical marker project. They had donated \$3,500 for the project but now wished to go in a different direction

since the marker project was taking so long to come to fruition. On motion by Tim, seconded by Mary, the Trustees unanimously agreed to return the \$3,500 to the foundation.

Eaton County Historical Marker

Bill explained that Geneva Wiskemann had informed him that an informal group to restore the monument raised money. Joan moved, seconded by Zig, to rescind the decision of January 18th to contribute \$250 to this project. The motion was unanimously approved.

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.

Partner ship discussion:

With questions raised about HSGL requests for donations as noted above, Bill thought it appropriate to discuss when and with whom we “partner” for projects. The consensus was that this board should authorize all such partnerships explicitly and set up a written policy for future decisions on these matters for future boards. This will include an explanation of what the HSGL will do, what the partner will do, and what the expectations of each will be..

This issue came into focus when Joan briefly described her contact with Bill Adcock of the REO Museum concerning the participation of Olds cars in last year’s home tour and how the lack of an explicit agreement lead to some concerns by Adcock. In the end Joan advised him that although the old cars would be welcome again, the terms and conditions would have to be approved by this board. Interestingly, Jacob spoke to several of the car owners from last year that had no issues and were ready and enthusiastic about participating again. Bill eventually tabled the issue for further discussion at future meetings

Moores River Home Tour

In light of the above discussion, Joan moved, seconded by Val to explicitly authorize our sponsorship of the Moores Home tour for this fall. Sponsorship was unanimously approved.

Tourist in You own Home Town:

Bill reported that elements of our exhibit on the Lansing Police Department will be on display for this event at City Hall on Saturday June 2nd. 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. Bill will solicit volunteers by e-mail. The exhibit will stay at City Hall through November 18th.

“Life before 496”, I-496 Project:

Bill reported that with the transition from the Bernero administration to the Schor administration, contact with the federal grant agency had been lost. Schor's office will reestablish contact. The new administration is excited to begin the project. Next Tuesday (May 15th) a small group will gather to discuss the project and to begin actual organization and planning.

Schedule of Events:

Annual Meeting:

The annual meeting will take place on Thursday night, June 14th, beginning at 6:30 at Riverside Park in the Cherry Hill Neighborhood. The meeting will include the election of officers and board members. Anne or Jacob will be there to preside over the business meeting part of the program. A walking Tour of the Cherry Hill Neighborhood will follow.

Annual Award nominees:

After some discussion, Tim moved and Joan seconded that we present the Peckham Award to two recipients for this year: Msgr. George Michaud and to Sgt Justin Moore of LPD for their recent efforts in two programs for this year.

Other programs:

The East Lansing Historical Society will be presenting a program on June 13th about the year 1968 at East Lansing High School. The East Lansing organization wants us to sponsor it and in this way help reinvigorate their own organization. We are only asked to participate and are not expected to contribute any money to the program. This will take place on June 13th.

There will be a walking tour of the Germantown neighborhood, Roadside Lansing program to highlight local tourist attractions, and stereo views of Lansing from old postcards put on by Jacob and Craig Whitford. Jacob will also present a program in September on the MSU Marching Band.

Archive Update:

Zig reported that the condition of the REO Garage where we store our collection has improved somewhat as they have lain new tile, finished dry-walling, and further organized them. More work is still needed.

Adjournment:

At 8:29PM, Ron moved to adjourn, seconded by Zig. The board unanimously agreed. The next board meeting will be scheduled for July or August.

Ron Emery
/S/
Secretary
May 7, 2018

Approved at July 23, 2018 meeting