

Bay Area Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes Monday, July 21, 2008

President Resa Hennings called the meeting to order at 6:00 a.m. Sixteen members were in attendance which achieved a quorum: Resa Hennings, Jeanine Lawrence, Leo Waltz, Renee Ball, Paula Sinning, Shirley Lindquist, Claudia Grafton, Tina Chatham, Loren Martin, Neil Miserendino, Lee Jared, Mary Martin, Kathryn Morrow, Tammy Frey, Alice Braud-Jones, and Lynn Finger (future Corresponding Secretary) visited.

Jeanine Lawrence read from Psalm 18: 1-3 and led us in a prayer.

The minutes of the May 27 and June 23 Board meetings were approved. Renee Ball has resigned as Recording Secretary of the Board.

Due to the resignation of Ed Harris as Treasurer, the reports for June and July will be presented at the August board meeting. We have \$1,532.93 in the Treasury as of July 3. Resa welcomed Bettinna "Tina" Medlin-Chatham who has consented to be the new Treasurer. We received a fax from the IRS regarding our desire to be classed as a 501-C3 non-profit organization. We need to respond by July 30. Resa has been trying to get in touch with them. The IRS also had some questions about our scholarships. Ed Harris handed out the budget during the June meeting. Tammy Frey reported that the completed budget should be out by September 1. All of the committee chairmen have responded with their budgets. The cookbook figures have been included in the budget.

Ron Cox has resigned from the Scholarship Committee. Resa welcomed Lynn Finger who will replace Lee Jared as Corresponding Secretary.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Paula Sinning, Cookbook Chairman, reported that the cookbooks are here. They turned out really good. She passed around copies of the cookbook to the board members. They will be for sale at the July General Meeting. The price is \$15.00 each. Paula mentioned that we could look in the back of the book and see what recipes each person had listed. She also demonstrated how the cookbook stand works (located in the front of the book). Some discussion was held about how to best sell them such as should we let people take some of them to sell without paying for them first? It was decided that members should first pay for the books they take and if they bring some back, their money will be refunded. Hopefully, BAGS will make some profit when we sell them all. The money will be deposited in the bank with the rest of the BAGS income.
2. Paula Sinning has volunteered to be the Freeman Library Display Chairman.
3. The Christmas Party was discussed. Tina Chatham has agreed to be the chairman of the committee. There was discussion about the date of the party. Jeanine Lawrence has reserved December 6 and November 21 for the meeting dates for these months. A list of volunteers to help with the Christmas Party was passed around. A motion was made and seconded that we combine the November and December meetings and have a Christmas Party on November 21. The motion passed.
4. At the June Board Meeting, a motion was made by Renee Ball to amend Article 1 Section 3: Dues and Assessments, in the Bylaws on Page 39 of the "Yearbook" to remove the dollar amount from the Bylaws. It was seconded by Kathryn Morrow and passed with the Board unanimously. A Bylaw Committee was selected to be chaired by First Vice-President, Alice Braud-Jones

although she was not present. After research, it was discovered that the dollar amount in the Bylaws cannot be removed by a vote of the Board. It would have to be presented to the membership. Renee Ball made a motion to rescind this motion. Alice Braud-Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed. There will be not further action on this item until such time as it becomes necessary to make other by-law changes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Earlier in the day, Jeanine and Resa met with David Mobley, Executive Director of Programs at the University Baptist Church. The church's costs have gone up so they will need to charge BAGS at a higher rate. At the present time, BAGS pays \$30.00 for the basic set up of chairs at the general meeting. We will now have to pay an additional \$25.00 for the more detailed set up of tables and program equipment for a total of \$55.00. If we continue to have food of any sort, we will be charged another \$45.00 for the clean up resulting in a total cost of \$100.00 per meeting. We had discussion about the pros and cons of meeting at the church and possibly meeting at the Webster location. At the Webster location, we would have to set up and take down the tables and chairs ourselves. We could meet at the Webster location on Sunday, and we could have a pot-luck supper. The Webster location does not have equipment for programs, so we would have to rent equipment or provide our own. We have about three months to make a decision about meeting at the church. It was suggested that we might need to raise dues \$10.00 a year to cover to extra costs. We will get some revenue from the sale of the cookbook that will help with finances. The question was raised about the money that we have in CD's helping defray costs, and about whether to advise the general membership about the extra costs or changing location at this time or whether to wait until August. It was felt that we don't have to provide food for the general members meetings and, that meeting times could be adjusted accordingly.
2. Leo Waltz felt that we needed to reconsider the "Newsletter Webpage Restriction" of the public not being able to access the entire current newsletter for two months. It is extra work for the webmaster to maintain the delay of the entire "Newsletter" for two months. The "Quarterly" is the publication that is most outstanding of our publications however; the "Newsletter" has had some very good feature articles. It was suggested that we have not as many original articles in the "Newsletter". There is always adequate information on the website for seminars and other events that we don't have to get them out of the "Newsletter". The amount of time that the complete "Newsletter" is held doesn't make a difference. We do withhold the "Quarterly" from the public. Leo explained how the web pages are built and the amount of time that it takes to do them. After discussion Kathryn Morrow made a motion that we leave the two month restriction of the public not being able to access the entire newsletter for two months. Alice Braud-Jones seconded the motion. The motion was passed.
3. "Tell Us What You Think Questionnaire" – Resa passed out a synopsis of members' answers to the questionnaire that we filled out at the June general meeting. Forty-nine people responded to the questionnaire, but not everyone answered all the questions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Shirley Lindquist, New Member Chairman, reported that Loren Martin has agreed to teach the Beginning Genealogy Class on Saturday, October 4. It will be on the second floor of University Baptist Church. Shirley has requested a room reservation on that date. We need a co-instructor. **ACTION:** Renee Ball volunteered to be the co-instructor with Loren. Renee has taught a genealogy class previously. Shirley has an instructor packet with materials that they have used when Doug Wilson previously taught this class. Doug and Shirley have developed a study course which will be used in this session. Shirley handles all of the administrative support, such as:

- student registration, assembling the hand-out packets, and making sure room and equipment set-up are accurate. Shirley introduces the instructors and presented a brief conclusion to the class. The class will be scheduled from 9:00 until 11:30, but the room is reserved from 8:30 until 12:00.
2. Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Chairman, reported that 16 members attended the June Board Meeting. There were 62 people at the June General Meeting (56 members and 6 visitors). There were no sales of paper copies of monthly programs or other genealogical materials. The set-up charges for July are: \$30.00 for set up and \$8.60 for food service, tea and coffee for a total of \$38.60.
 3. Lee Jared, Corresponding Secretary, reported that on July 9 she sent a sympathy card to Wanda Johnson who is the secretary of the University Baptist Church for the death of her mother. On July 10, Lee sent a get well card to Glenda Warren. On July 14, she sent a get well card to Vernon Gillette.
 4. Leo Waltz, Webmaster, reported that the "Newsletter" was delayed getting on-line because he didn't get it until Sunday night. He has an attendance matrix that he has kept from the numbers that Jeanine has supplied him. Leo suggested that we take a picture of the cookbook for the website. Leo advised that he needs to have the program information well in advance to be included on the website. He reminded us that he needs to be replaced soon because the time that he asked for is nearly up. Linda Carrington plans to take Leo's web-site design, because she has shown an interest in being our webmaster. Linda is very good at computer skills. Leo's class is full.
 5. Kathryn Morrow, Scholarship Committee Chairman, reported that she has finished a draft of the criteria and selection process for the research award. She recommended that Resa check with the IRS about any special requirements for awards. The committee asked that the research area include Galveston and Harris County, since that is the BAGS area. The award amount has not been okayed by the board, and stands at \$350 a year, with a possible expansion to two awards a year later. She recommended that BAGS not solicit funds or mention the award until BAGS is classed as 501-C3, to be on the safe side of the IRS. Ed Harris was strong on this point, as well.
 6. Tammy Frey, Registrar, reported that we have a new application which is on-line and also included in the July "Newsletter".
 7. Claudia Grafton, 2nd Vice-President in Charge of Programs, reported that Cary Lynne Hall will give the July program on "Scrap booking Your Family History". She has a four page handout on this subject. Members are asked to bring their scrapbooks to share and compare with others. This will not be a scrap booking session, just information of how to do scrap booking. Alice asked if we are going to again provide meat at the August "Show and Tell" General Meeting. Resa advised that Leslee Fehlman was coordinating the purchase of the meat for the August General Meeting.
 8. Mary Martin, County Coordinator, reported that sixteen people signed up to go to the Clayton Library on Wednesday, July 16, and thirteen were present. \$33.00 was collected to send to the East Harris County Senior Citizen's Program. Two more trips are scheduled: **Wednesday, August 6** and **Tuesday, September 16**. BAGS is scheduled to choose four new trips during the first two weeks of September for the next six months. Alice Braud-Jones wants to go to the Stephen F. Austin Library in Nacogdoches, TX.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Leonard Martin
Substitute Recording Secretary