

Bay Area Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes Monday, April 20, 2009

President Resa Hennings called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Twelve people attended the meeting thus making a quorum: Lynn Finger, Mary Martin, Loren Martin, Jeanine Lawrence, Melodey Hauch, Alice Braud-Jones, Lewis Jarman, Tina Chatham, Susie Ganch, Resa Hennings, Shirley Lindquist, and Tammy Frey.

Jeanine Lawrence read from 1 Peter 2:24 in the New Living Translation.

Claudia Grafton took the minutes for the March 23rd Board Meeting. She is out of town, so we will have the minutes from the March 23rd and the April 22nd meetings approved at the May 25th meeting.

Tina Chatham gave the Treasurer's Report. The Balance Brought Forward for March 31, 2009 was \$2,988.46 in the checking account and \$5,160.40 in the CD accounts. The Income was from Tote Bag Sales \$20.00; Cash Basket \$4.25; Sales Income \$13.01; and a voided check for the February speaker \$50.00 for a Total Income of \$87.26. The Expenses were from Copy Dr.-Newsletter \$2.97; Meeting Room \$55.00; Food Service \$5.50; February Speaker \$50.00; March Speaker \$50.00; TSGS Dues \$25.00; Clayton Library Friends Donation \$100.00; Clayton Library Dues \$20.00; and FGS Dues \$55.00 for Total Expenses of \$363.47. This left a Balance on Hand of \$2,712.25 in the Checking Account and \$5,176.38 in the CD Accounts. There were no additions or corrections to the Treasurer's Report so it was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Melodey Hauch, *Quarterly* Editor, reported the *March Quarterly* will be distributed at the Society Meeting on Friday, April 24th. Melodey needs articles especially for Harris County.
2. Lynn Finger, Corresponding Secretary, reported that she sent Ron Cox a card; he is recovering from surgery.
3. Mary Martin, County Coordinator reported that the last trip to the Clayton Library was on Wednesday, April 8. Twenty-three people were signed up for the trip, and seventeen people were able to go on the trip. Twenty-seven dollars was collected to send to the East Harris County Senior Citizens for use in their program. The other trips that are scheduled are: Wednesday, May 20; Wednesday, June 3; Wednesday, July 8; Wednesday, August 19, and Tuesday, September 29.
4. Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Chairman, reported that 9 people attended the March Board Meeting. There were 55 people at the Society Meeting (~~55~~ members and 5 visitors). The Sales Income for March was from 'Donations for Genealogical Publications' \$3.75 and a Bettag Seminar Handout \$4.00 (this was the last one) for a total of \$7.75. The April Church expenses are \$55.00 for room set up and \$5.50 for food service for a total of \$60.50. We have had some *Genealogical Helper Magazines* from Everton Press for our last seminar; we have been selling them for \$2.00, but they are no longer selling. **ACTION:** It was decided to include them in the 'Donations for Genealogical Publications' grouping. Jeanine asked if there are any more "Surname Data Base Source" books; she only has two of them. **ACTION:** Resa has a box of them, and she will bring them to the church. Jeanine said that they are cleaning the closets in the church on Saturday, May 9 from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. **ACTION:** Jeanine will make sure that our shelves are marked in the closet.
5. Melodey Hauch reported that Darwin Gilmore and his wife are moving to Cypress. He gave her a box of books and BAGS materials. She will bring them to the church to be included in the 'Donations for Genealogical Publications'.

6. Tammy Frey, Registrar, reported that we didn't receive any new members this month. Our membership is still either 187 or 188.
7. Resa reported that no members wanted to serve on the Nominating Committee. Resa Hennings and Claudia Grafton are the Nominating Committee this year. Resa asked the Board for suggestions. She distributed a list of people who have served on the BAGS Board and are eligible to serve as president. Alice Braud-Jones suggested Lewis Jarman for First Vice-President. Melodey Hauch seconded the suggestion. Resa asked Loren Martin if he would like to serve as President again, but he needed to decline at this time. Lewis thought that Resa should serve as President again. Alice stated that she cannot serve as BAGS President, at this time. Resa expressed a thought that we may need to restructure our scope of activities for the coming year. It seems that many members only want to hear the speakers and go on the bus trips. We were reminded of how Carolyn Hellen had used decorated gift bags, at each meeting, as a vehicle for improving communication with each of the officers and the committee chairmen. We used to have a committee decorate for the different seasons; no one wants to do that anymore. No one wants to be the Librarian. Jeanine asked about Neil Miserendino, and he said no to serving as President again; he is very busy and may be working on a Master's Degree. Currently, we have 7 officers and 14 committee chairmen on the Board. We discussed the qualifications for president. Under Article III on Page 41 of the *Yearbook*, "Nominees for President must have served a minimum of one (1) year as a member of the Board of Directors. Other Officer and Director positions require that the nominee be a voting member of the Society." **Susie Ganch is considering being President of BAGS, and she will let Resa Hennings know of her decision in the near future.**

NEW BUSINESS:

1. We had discussion as to changing the months that we meet. Shirley Lindquist suggested that we don't meet in the summer and in December. Melodey said that one *Quarterly* is handed out in July; she said that she could do it in June instead of July. Alice suggested having a seminar in June and meeting from January through April. Most of the members did not want to meet in December. Loren had concerns about not abiding by the By-Laws with not meeting in all of the months. Loren also expressed a concern with the possibility of 'losing momentum' and member confusion by not meeting monthly. Several Board members liked the idea of a social in December. Alice suggested meeting in early December. Resa suggested that we could have a social meeting in a restaurant. We have a problem with our November meeting conflicting with the time around Thanksgiving. August has always been the "Show and Tell Potluck Supper". It was suggested that because we have some new members that we need to promote the August meeting more, and they might participate. The months of May, June, July, November, and December are the months in question to drop having meetings. **ACTION:** It was decided that the Board recommend to the membership to eliminate the June, July, and November meetings. No decisions were made concerning the possibility of conducting a summer seminar. Tammy Frey stated that the Board's ideas and recommendations should be published in the *Newsletter* - we need to tell the membership what we are thinking. The members need to have a hard-copy document clearly outlining any potential By-Law changes, so that they will know what they may be voting to modify. **ACTION:** Alice Braud-Jones made a motion that a committee review the By-Laws and amend the By-Laws to have regularly scheduled meetings to be determined by the Board. Susie Ganch seconded the motion. Nine members were for this motion, and 1 was opposed. **ACTION:** Susie suggested that we have a handout at the September meeting to tell the membership what we are going to do. Lewis Jarman expressed that he didn't think that committee chairmen should vote on Board issues and that only the elected officials should decide any issue. Susie thinks that the committee chairmen should vote. We would have to change the By-Laws if the committee chairmen don't vote. A quorum consists of 8 voting members at the

board meetings and 25 at the general meetings. The President would be the tie breaker in case of any tie votes, however, this is not in the By-Laws. As to when the Board meets, it was thought that we should write the By-Laws giving the Board reasonable flexibility. **ACTION:** Alice Braud-Jones made a motion that the Board recommend that the By-Laws be amended for the Board to meet regularly, as necessary. Melodey Hauch seconded the motion. The motion was passed. The President will call meetings of the board, as needed. The By-Laws don't state that we have to meet in person; we could have a meeting by e-mail. **ACTION:** Lewis Jarman made a motion that we follow the By-Laws until they are amended. Tammy Frey seconded the motion. We should maintain the current meeting schedule. Six were for the motion and 2 were against. The motion passed. Page 45 of the *Yearbook* states how we will meet. "The Board of Directors will meet monthly. The Board will determine a meeting schedule at the beginning of the year. The President will prepare an Agenda for the meeting and distribute it to the members. A quorum for Board of Director meeting will be met only if eight (8) or more of the members are present." **ACTION:** The President will take it under advisement and let Jeanine know whenever we need to cancel the meeting room at the church. **ACTION:** The By-Law committee will consist of the First Vice-President, Alice Braud-Jones, to be the chairman; Tammy Frey, Resa Hennings, and Lewis Jarman volunteered to be committee members.

2. Melodey Hauch suggested that we print the minutes from the previous Society meeting on the back of the next meeting's agenda. Many organizations do this or have the minutes read at the general meetings. Some groups have a report from the Board at the general meetings. **ACTION:** The Recording Secretary will create minutes of the last Society Meeting's Minutes and provide this to the President by the Friday of the Society Meeting, so that they can be printed with the agenda of the Society Meeting. (We cannot do it for the April 24th meeting because the Recording Secretary does not have a copy of the minutes from the March meeting because she was absent from this meeting.)

Resa Hennings adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Leonard Martin
Recording Secretary