

Meeting of the Board of Directors
Traverse Area Historical Society
March 7, 2017 – 6:00 PM – Society’s Registered Office

Attendees: Stephen Siciliano, Larry Hains, Virginia LeClaire, Sharon Jennings, Julie Schopieray, Jim Warner, Peg Siciliano

Absent: Fred Anderson

Guests: Jeanne Hurst, Matthew Groleau

President Siciliano opened the meeting on schedule. There were no agenda revisions.

Secretary’s Report – The minutes of the February 20, 2017 board meeting were reviewed and no changes or corrections noted. Ms. Siciliano moved that the minutes be approved. This was seconded by Mr. Warner and passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report

- 1.) Mr. Hains reported that the bank balance is currently \$6182.57. The Siciliano Challenge has been very successful in that the Petertyl Account is now at \$1157.11. The old electric bill owed to the city has now been completely resolved. Mr. Hains complete report can be found as Attachment A.
- 2.) A proposal (Attachment B) has been received from State Farm for a group liability policy. This was shared with the board and discussed. The annual fee is \$891.00. Dr. Siciliano moved and Mr. Warner seconded that we proceed with the acceptance of this State Farm policy, opting to pay the premium every six months. This passed unanimously. Ms. LeClaire will inform agent Karin Hoskins at the William Roach State Farm Agency (206 E. Michigan Ave, Saline, MI 28176-1555; Phone 734-429-3780) that we accept their offer and desire to finalize the contract.

Chair Report

- 1.) Location and Dates of Future Board Meetings: The only option at TADL for the Thirlyby Room would require following a group on Tuesday evenings. This group is supposed to vacate the room by 6:30. It was decided that this put too much pressure to finish the meeting as we would have to exit the building before the library closes at 9:00. The Sicilianos are willing to continue to have the meetings at their residence which is the registered office of the society. Some of the group felt that members might be intimidated about attending a meeting in a private home. It was decided that we would continue to search for new options and plan to meet at the Sicilianos in April when a final decision would be made.
- 2.) Board Response to Grand Traverse Regional Cultural Center Invitation: A rather lengthy discussion was held about this new group which is establishing an umbrella organization for the various historical societies and clubs in the area. There were many questions and it was finally decided that Mr. Siciliano would correspond by letter to April Fitzhugh, president of the GTRCC, inviting her to attend our next board meeting to more fully explain the mission, membership requirements, and other items of concern.

- 3.) Recent Communications: It was decided by the board that this item should be considered in closed session. Mr. Hains so moved and it was seconded by Mr. Warner and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

- 1.) Communications: It was noted that the web site has been nicely updated recently.
- 2.) Membership – Ms. Jennings reported that membership is now at 183. The membership meetings have been well attended and donations have been received at them.
- 3.) Program and Events – The question of using our email blast list to publicize events for other historical societies had been previously discussed. Ms. Siciliano had offered to survey the membership to see what their wishes were. She presented the results tonight which showed that the majority of respondents were open to additional notifications. She is going to send one more reminder to those that did not respond and eventually plans to have two email lists, one for those wanting only our notifications and the other for those wanting all postings.
- 4.) Publications – Sales of the Wilhelm book have dropped off considerably after an initial spurt. Mr. Hains continues to bring a selection of books to the membership meetings.

Public Comment: Because the board was going into closed session, public comment was invited at this time. Mr. Groleau stated that he may have a meeting room option for us at a business with which he is associated. He will look into this and report at our next meeting.

Our next board meeting will be on Tuesday April 4, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Siciliano residence. At this point the visitors exited.

The board went into closed session at 8:15 PM. The board returned to open session at 8:30 and immediately adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia LeClaire, Recording Secretary