Meeting of the Board of Directors
Traverse Area Historical Society
August 7, 2018 – RJG Office (3111 Park Dr., Traverse City, MI)
Attendees: Stephen Siciliano, Larry Hains, Sharon Jennings, Jim Warner, Peg Siciliano, Matt Groleau, Fred Anderson. Member Jenny Loup came in at 6:30 due to another obligation.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Siciliano at 6:04 PM.

No revisions to agenda

**Secretary’s Report**: Minutes of July meeting had been provided to board members prior to the meeting. Mr. Hains moved, and Ms. Jennings seconded, that the minutes be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**
• Mr. Hains reported that the TAHS account balance is $21,822.69.

-Petertyl Fund - $ 6,722.11

-Lautner Fund - $ 5,100.71

-General Fund- $ 9,999.87

\*This month’s Petertyl Challenge of $100 was met.

\*Mr. Groleau compared the TAHS’ financials to date to our 2017 – 18 budget and we are doing well; ahead on income, well within expenditures.

\*Mr. Groleau asked for an explanation as to why we track the Lautner Fund separately from the general fund. At the time the society received the gift, the Board determined to decide later whether there should be special criteria for the use of the gift and whether the fund should be invested in some way. Such restrictions and/or an investment have not been discussed as of yet, but there was consensus that this should be discussed at the next Board meeting. Mr. Anderson pointed out that Huntington Bank currently has a CD that earn 2.5%

**President’s Report**

\*Newsletter: Mr. Siciliano has been working on the layout. Those who have not sent in their contribution should do so as soon as possible.

\*Hitchcock/Goodale farm foundations: Ms. Siciliano and Mr. Groleau met with Gary Wilson to view the foundations near the construction work at Hickory Hills. Ms. Siciliano will contact Derek Melville (Traverse City Parks and Recreation Superintendent); Mr. Groleau will contact a member of the Hickory Hills Board and perhaps a representative the construction company working on the project.

\*Activity concerning the strategic plan was reviewed.

- Ms. Loup and Mr. Hains will get the on-line membership functioning.

-Mr. Groleau explained his work on the surveys; he has tracked TAHS Facebook likes and compared them to whether responders are members

-Mr. Groleau and Ms. Jennings will continue working on membership lists.

\*Planning for Annual Meeting:

-At the meeting Ms. Siciliano will present a 10-15 minute talk on the history of the TAHS. Mr. Siciliano will give an annual report; Mr. Hains will give a financial update.

-It was determined that the by-laws do not need to be amended.

-Two board members are up for reelection: Larry Hains and Stephen Siciliano. A discussion was held about adding more members to the Board. Current members should consider whether there is anyone who might bring new skills to the board, and who is willing to participate. In particular, the board is seeking a Board member or active volunteer with a good technology background. It was decided that anyone interested in joining the Board should first attend at least one, and preferably two, Board Meetings. The September and October meetings occur before the Annual meeting. Ms. Loup will contact writer Beth Milligan, who has voiced interest in the TAHS.

**Committees**

**Marketing**

Mr. Groleau reported the following:

-Applied for the TAHS to take part in Shop your Community Day.

-Surveyed TAHS Facebook “likes”

-Made a list of TAHS book prices in preparation for listing them on line

-Drafted a membership renewal page for the website.

Ms. Jennings asked about the status of the TAHS Board’s nomination of Amy Barritt for the Traverse City Business News’ “40 under 40” list. Ms. Siciliano has submitted the nomination; we await the announcement of the successful nominees at the end of August

Downtown plaques: Mr. Anderson reported that the Arts Commission has tentatively approved paying half the cost of the project IF the Downtown Merchants Association covers the other half. He had intended to attend the Merchant’s meeting with Nate Elkins from the Arts Commission, however, the Merchants indicated they want to review the application before others attend the meeting.

Mr. Groleau asked about the auctioning of newspapers and speaking to the Kiwanis Club. The newspapers have not been addressed since Ms. Loup took over the program chair. Ms. Siciliano forgot about contacting Kiwanis – she will do so.

Mr. Groleau asked Mr. Warner about the videos of the program meetings, in hopes of putting links to them on the TAHS website. Mr. Warner will fill him in on how to access them

**Membership**

August membership stands at 158; up one from July.

Ms. Jennings suggested we send special annual meeting invitations to TAHS volunteers and celebrate them in some small way. The Board agreed.

**Programs**

The programs that will be presented in connection with the Dennos Museum Center grant will be on November 4th and January 20th; in November Mr. Anderson will speak on the City Opera House; in January Ms. Siciliano will present on the change of waterfront property from industrial to recreational use. Ms. Loup will look into having a second November program on the TAHS’ regular program date.

Ms. Loup will check again to see if Julie Schopieray will give her talk on Jens Peterson in September. (This had been scheduled for last April, but was cancelled due to a snowstorm.) She asked Board members to contact her with other ideas in case Ms. Schopieray is not available.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4th, 2018 at the RJG Office.

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Siciliano, Secretary