**Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Traverse Area Historical Society**

**January 7th, Thirlby Room, TADL-Main Branch**

Attendees: S. Siciliano, P. Siciliano, L. Hains, S. Jennings, M. Groleau, B. McCall, J. Warner, J. Loup

Absent: none

Guest: Matt Kearn

Meeting called to order at 6:31 by S. Siciliano

**Revisions to Agenda:**

Added the discussion of TAHS emails tabled from the December 3rd board meeting -- Michigan Council of Social Studies, response to History Press for publications.

**Secretary’s Report**

The meeting minutes from the December 3rd TAHS board meeting were previously circulated via email. No revisions noted. Motion to approve the minutes made by S. Jennings, seconded by B. McCall. All approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**

M. Groleau circulated the Treasurer’s report, with an addendum to board members via email. Due to the change of treasurer duties from L. Hains to M. Groleau names on the TAHS CDs need to be changed. M. Groleau also reported that the Quicken license for TAHS book-keeping needs to be upgraded. He suggested Techsoup as a service to explore which offers discounted software for non-profit organizations. L. Hains had previously suggested an upgrade may be necessary.

The board discussed the possible benefits of 3 user vs. 1 user program. This would depend on who would need access to the program within the next 3 years. There would be a $90.00 difference between the 1 user and 3 user system if TAHS could acquire the software through Techsoup. B. McCall makes a motion to authorize up to $500.00 (cheapest option) to be spent for the upgraded software, seconded J. Warner. All approved.

The increased efforts to market the Grand Traverse Legends books ahead of the holiday season resulted in 15 sets of books sold, and 3 additional individual books, totaling $790.00 in sales.

TAHS is currently in possession of 600 copies of Volume 1 of Grand Traverse Legends books. The board discussed purchasing additional copies of Volume 2 so that we could continue offering sets for sale. M. Groleau suggested a possible sponsorship for a reprint, and the board discussed the possible number needed upon review of preliminary estimates. It was decided L. Hains would discuss with his daughter other possible printing options. Also it was noted that Richard Fidler has the files for the books and will be contacted.

January 17th is the deadline for content for the next TAHS newsletter -- content is to include notes on the survey, tours, tour numbers, photos. The archives corner will do a piece on what we need to get a museum in the area.

The board discussed the Lindburg donation -- some of the money will go to Hickory and the Goodale-Hitchcock project for signage, $1,000.00 is listed for such in the budget.

It was mentioned that relics from Hickory have been displayed previously out of a private collection owned by Laura Ness.

P. Siciliano mentioned seeing nothing in the rotunda at Carnegie library during the train show and suggested to the board we could make signage and perhaps partner with the Northern Michigan Modeling Railroad Club.

J. Loup will invite Jordan Anderson to the next board meeting to discuss possible video production for TAHS downtown tours or a possible promotional video.

The Michigan Council of Social Studies will be having their annual conference at Grand Traverse Resort and has contacted TAHS to collaborate. The board agreed we need to know what they are interested in - we could offer our already prepared display panels and also discussed the potential sale of books. S. Siciliano will respond to the inquiry.

The board decided to not respond to the History Press email looking for local writers for specific book series.

**Membership Report**

J. Loup, M. Groleau, S. Siciliano, S. Jennings and P. Siciliano will meet separately regarding the current list of members and email lists.

The board discussed the idea of membership cards and ideas for membership incentives. It was decided to revisit the issue when we revisit talking again about books sales.

The TAHS website currently needs the following updates: student membership fee is 10.00 (wrong on website) business designation -- 100.00. Other possible ideas include: description of tiered donor list and having that publicized.

The board again discussed offering memberships to society volunteers. M. Groleau suggested current board members nominate individuals for a year’s membership, done at the end of the year in appreciation of previous year’s contributions. This will be addressed in February for 2020 at the February 4th board meeting.

**Marketing Report**

M. Groleau previously sent the marketing report to the board via email. He noted there was no new news regarding the museum at the Village at Building 50, but that the area for the museum has been blocked off.

**Program and Events Report**

J. Loup will set up posts and an event on Facebook regarding the February program with S. Siciliano as the presenter.

J. Loup will contact the sexton of Oakwood Cemetery, Branden Morgan regarding possibly sharing his talk on the Oakwood Cemetery as one of the TAHS programs.

Visitor and station manager Matt Kearn reported to the TAHS board regarding a new oral history project being organized by Traverse Area Community Media (what used to be TC TV 2/ UpNoth Media). The studio will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday to record interviews of local oral history. They can provide people to interview, but also coaching for community members to interview family and friends. The station may be able to offer some on-site interview recording. This project will launch shortly and is titled “Reflections”. Mr. Kearn envisions 90 minute sessions, and DVDs of the interviews will be available for purchase. He asked TAHS for possible leads on sourcing people to be interviewed, as well as possible collaboration with advertising as the project develops.

L. Hains reported on the value of the old phone system currently in the TAHS storage locker. Essentially there is no value and the board decided to recycle the system and take this off of our list of assets.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39.