**Traverse Area Historical Society Board of Directors Meeting**

**July 11, 2023**

**Nelson Reading Room, Traverse Area District Library**

Present: S. Siciliano, P. Siciliano, L. Hains, J. Offenhauser, S. Jennings, J. Warner, E. Modrall, B. McCall, M. MacLeod

Absent: J. Loup, J. Anderson

Called to order 6:31

**Revisions to the Agenda:** We added three items to the agenda: discussion of a potential photograph collection, payment for the Petertyl internship instructor, and a request about responding to news of the potential demolition of the TCAPS Administration Building.

**Public Comment:** none

**Secretary’s Report:** J. Loup circulated June meeting minutes to board members. With discussed changes, B. McCall moved to approve the minutes for June 6, 2023. S. Jennings seconded. All approved.

**Public Comment:** none

**Treasurer’s Report:**

J. Offenhauser presented the Profits and Loss and Balance Sheet statements as of June 30, 2023.

TBA Petertyl: $6,687.56

TBA Checking Account: $17,520.60

Emily's Project: $39,559.45

PayPal: $145.06

Restricted: $46,247.01

Unrestricted: $17,520.60

**President’s Report:**

Board members discussed the upcoming program schedule for 2023-24. Based on the Board’s work and the report provided by J. Loup, the following were determined:

The society’s 2023-24 programs will be held on the third Sunday of the month in the McGuire room; the time is reserved from 2:00 to 4:00, although our program lengths are usually one hour.

September - Karen Reiser, history of education on the Old Mission peninsula

October - TAHS Annual Meeting, presentations by Michigan History Day students

November - Nancy Bordine, Women's roles in society as revealed through fashion

December – none

S. Siciliano will follow up with the September and November speakers to seek a paragraph description of each program. P. Siciliano will follow up with the TCAPS Michigan Day coordinator to invite the four students who advanced to national competition to our annual meeting to give brief presentations on their projects.

For 2024, we have the room reserved January through June, though we usually do programs through May. We discussed potential speakers for spring. Some speakers are not comfortable with a regular presentation but may be interested in an interview style presentation. S. Siciliano will ask J. Anderson about whether he would be available to serve as the interviewer. If he is available, L. Hains will follow up with Fred Nelson to see about his willingness to do such a program in spring.

# Two potential programs that were proposed was a virtual Sixth Street tour presented by M. MacLeod and P. Siciliano and a virtual Oakwood Cemetery tour presented by L. Hains. S. Jennings will also inquire about Gini LeClaire’s availability to present on her book *The Traverse City State Hospital Training School for Nurses*.

In addition, J. Loup spoke with Amy Barrett and she said she has a prepared program on transportation in Kingsley. S. Siciliano shared that Christopher Reiser has materials on the Life and times of Peter Dougherty and expressed interest in presenting in January.

We also discussed the tours. We determined that it was necessary for us to notify the media

within each week that the tour is being presented. M. MacLeod asked we put on the website that we will offer an additional Old Towne tour on September 23rd. S. Siciliano will share that information with J. Anderson.

We also determined that it would be helpful to collect the tally of tour attendees. J. Loup will develop a spreadsheet for our information. Tour guides are asked to send their tallies to J. Loup.

**Membership Committee:**

Current membership: 139

We discussed the concerning decline in memberships. We decided to pilot a plan to offer gift memberships to those who would potentially be paying members. B. McCall will contact area Social Studies teachers and the rest of the board will bring three names of potential gift membership recipients to the next meeting.

We also discussed using our Facebook page to make periodic pushes for new memberships. We also decided that offering one free tour per year would be a new benefit of society membership.

**New Agenda Items:**

L. Hains received an inquiry about a donation of photographs originally printed in the *Preview* Newspaper. The board asked him to recommend to the donor that the photographs be gifted to the Traverse Area District Library.

P. Siciliano asked about what financial compensation would we offer to the Petertyl Internship instructor. B. McCall made the motion that we would pay the instructor $50 per hour, up to a maximum of ten hours or $500. L. Hains seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Modrall received an inquiry about whether the board would respond to the recent news that the Traverse City Area Public School (TCAPS) Board was considering selling their Administration Building (the former Boardman School) with the plan that the building would be demolished by the purchaser. The Board will not take a stance on the TCAPS Board decision.

We did decide that we would post a picture of the building with a history of the Boardman School on our Facebook page.

**Adjourned:** 7:53