**Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Traverse Area Historical Society**

**May 5th, Held online, Zoom platform, due to Covid-19**

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

Absent: None

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by S. Siciliano

Revisions to Agenda: none

Minutes of the TAHS March 3rd meeting approved following revisions. B. McCall moved, S. Jennings seconded. All approved.

**Public Comment:**

Ann Swaney and Anne Magoun were present to discuss with TAHS board members potential partnership in regards to publishing a book on the history of the Traverse City District Library.

Ann Swaney described the desire of their group to form a partnership with 501c3 organization for fundraising and enabling them to get grants from other organizations.

Anne Magoun emphasized this scope of this book as a unique story and a grassroots effort with those individuals involved getting older and a need for interviews to be taken at this time. A contract has already been signed with local author Heather Shumaker and the size of the book will depend on funding.

The Friends of the Library board has also been contacted and they have discussed preliminary ideas with Amy Shamroe.

The current scope of the book includes 12-15 people to interview, board members, staff, and community members involved with a focus on 1995/96. There will likely be 2-3 chapters on the early history of Traverse City libraries and some on the current status. P. Siciliano will aid in looking into the early history.

Heather retains exclusive rights to words - initial funders have already been secured for the writing/oral interviews, they have a non-exclusive for publication and possibly publishing rights could be extended to other organizations.

Anne Magoun mentioned this could be a fundraiser for a combination of organizations.

Ann Swaney mentioned they will be looking for money for publishing and a publisher in the fall, 2020.

**Treasurer’s Report**:

Treasurer’s report was previously circulated via email by M. Groleau and reviewed by board members.

M. Groleau mentioned the Cares act and the possibility of gathering potential donations. P. Siciliano suggested a written proposal for the board.

M. Groleau will contact the Traverse City DDA for ideas regarding a downtown project to which TAHS can specifically donate 2019 tour money.

Account Balances as of 9:09pm on 5/4/2020 are as follows:

General $19,023.21

Julius Petertyl Fund $ 6,967.64

Mary Lautner Fund $ 5,507.25

Total Cash Funds $31,498.10

**President’s Report**:

S. Siciliano asked that a subcommittee be established to develop procedures to consider financial requests from authors proposing to write works on local history.

S. Siciliano requested a motion for the expenditure of funds for the Son of Union Veterans project at the Oakwood Cemetery - $600.00 total. $300.00 will be taken from the general fund and be matched by $300.00 of the Lindburg donations. M Groleau moved, P. Siciliano seconded. All approved.

President Siciliano noted the cancelation of the TAHS April 7th board meeting due to Covid-19 was agreed to by board members by email prior to the meeting date. S. Jennings moved, J. Warner seconded. All approved.

The next newsletter will be published in August; Programs and Events report still needed for the May newsletter.

Regarding TAHS gmail membership lists, Scott Morey of TADL has offered to help J. Loup with the technical aspect of sorting it out.

The letter to DDA regarding potential use of Horizon space which B. McCall drafted is approved will be sent on TAHS stationary.

**Marketing Report:**

Marketing report was previously circulated via email by M. Groleau.

Bree Kerner will aid with a revamping of the TAHS membership form.

A committee will need to meet regarding the design and use of the TAHS website. A scheduled meeting was canceled due to Covid-19 in March.

**Membership Report:**

S. Jennings previously circulated the membership report via email. Current membership is 155, down from 173 this month in 2019.

**Archives Report:**

Archivist’s report was previously circulated via email by P. Siciliano. The report included the promotion of gathering local stories of pandemic times, a discussion with City Commissioner Ross Putman, and the state of the Petertyl internship at TADL. P. Siciliano will contact Michele Howard regarding the possible advertising of the internship.

P. Siciliano will contact 2019 History Day participants with checks still uncashed.

**Program/Events:**

Currently scheduled programs for TAHS 2020 fall programing:

September program - Admiral Jerry Achenbach

October - annual meeting, possibly recruiting students going to National History Day

J. Loup will contact Branden Morgan regarding the possibility of a presentation on Oakwood Cemetery in September.

The state of TAHS programming will depend on the opening status of TADL and use of the McGuire room. More information is needed as further policy regarding Covid-19 unfolds.

L. Hains mentioned a request for permitting for tours for every Sunday. Both downtown and Oakwood Cemetery tours will begin in July, pending restrictions.

S. Siciliano will offer a Zoom option for the Old Mission Historical Society as he was scheduled to present on Abraham Lincoln's Presidency.

M. Groleau will contact his attorney to review the TAHS liability waiver forms used for the tours.

Virginia LeClaire will be turning over the TAHS phone to J. Warner and the payments for the phone service will be taken over by TAHS.

TAHS supporting local authors guidelines needed by June meeting -- including levels of funding for books/publishing

S. Sicilano will contact Anne Magoun and Ann Swaney regarding their mention of a partnership rights contract.

Meeting adjourned: 8:46 P.M.