Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Traverse Area Historical Society  
March 6, 2018 – Registered Society Office (627 Eastwood Ave.)  
  
Attendees: Peg Siciliano, Jenny Loup, Larry Hains, Julie Schopieray, Sharon Jennings, Jim Warner, Matt Groleau

In the absence of Stephen Siciliano (President) and Fred Anderson (Vice President), Secretary Peg Siciliano called the meeting to order at 6:03.

Jen Loup will stand in to take minutes for Ms. Siciliano on tonight's board meeting.

**Revisions to the Agenda:** none

**Secretary's Report:**

The minutes of the meeting of February 6 were distributed by email prior to the meeting to all board members. For the Treasurer's report - a profit and loss report was not included on February 6th. The minutes were corrected. Mr. Haines moved and Mr. Warner seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:**

\*The Petertyl Account balance is $5,002.11, the General Account balance is $10,169.80, and the Lautner account stands at $5,100.21. Mr. Hains provided both a sheet with the printed account balances and a print-out of and the previous month of activity in the General Account from the Bank's online records.

\*Mr. Hains mentioned that the PO Box for TAHS is up for renewal on March 31st. There is a slight price increase from $90.00 (as stated in the 2018 budget) to $96.00.

\*A payment is needed promptly on insurance and Mr. Hains is to contact Paulette Young.

\*Mr. Haines brought the laptop belonging to TAHS so that an IT contact of Mr. Groleau's can take a look at it pertaining to slow performance and usage of necessary software, including Quickbooks.

**President's Report:**

\*Ms. Siciliano shared copies of insurance policies left for the board members by President Siciliano. Discussion regarding the necessity to set aside money to meet the $1,000.00 deductible on the D&O Policy. The bylaws were to be consulted as to proper procedure.

\*Ms. Siciliano reported on behalf of President Siciliano that his conversation with Mr. Melkild regarding the sale of Currents of the Boardman, a publication to which TAHS holds copyright, went smoothly, and that Mr. Melkild was to contact Horizon Books to explain the situation. Unsure as to if that had yet taken place. Discussion and questions regarding the possible existence of other titles written by Mr. Melkild's father, and if he offered to transfer copyright to TAHS. President Siciliano to follow-up with Mr. Melkild.

**Committee Reports**:

Marketing --

\*Mr. Groleau reported that he has not received much response to a call for volunteers for possible TAHS representation at Friday Night Live, and no new news on the project of installing historical plaques downtown.

\*Mr. Groleau would like to send out a member survey and potential questions from board members were solicited. Positive response to the online newsletter was discussed, as well as not pursuing print copies of the newsletter at this time. A deadline for individual section submission for the May newsletter was discussed to be set in April.

\*The TAHS phone was discussed with Mr. Groleau presenting the idea of using an answering service in the future.

\*The TAHS PayPal account was discussed with Ms. Schopieray mentioning the need for a personal SSN for set-up - and the past usage of Maddie Lundy's number. The need to switch to the number of a current board member was mentioned, as well as notifying Ms. Lundy.

\*Mr. Groleau provided two sheets for members to look over - one pertaining to a possible script to be used before the programs in the TAHS program series at the TADL, to introduce the presenter, and one providing notes and specifics for the marketing of the TAHS programs.

Membership --

\*A new life-time membership was purchased and Ms. Jennings called and left a message welcoming the member.

\*Ms. Jennings reported 172 total members for TAHS.

\*Ms. Jennings mentioned that the memorial service for Bob Wilson will be held August 5th.

\*Ms. Jennings responded with a thank you to Kathleen Stocking's letter received by the President prior to the Feb. 6th meeting, regarding the nature trails in the Traverse City area.

\*A brief discussion was held regarding potential ways for teachers and students in the local school systems to be involved with TAHS, and decided this topic should be explored at a later date.

\*Mr. Groleau proposed that a brief history of TAHS itself be presented at the annual meeting for members in October.

\*Many board members agreed that a discussion of Membership policies should be added to the agenda of the meeting on April 3. Mentioned were topics such as the timing of notifications, membership termination, alternative membership structures (student, senior, etc), and being able to offer membership purchase online.

Archives --

\*Ms. Siciliano met with Amy Barritt archivist of Traverse Area District Library and Ann Swaney archivist of Northwestern Michigan Collage as members of the archives committee. They will go through the business archives of TAHS to see what should be kept and discarded.

\*Newspapers in the possession of TAHS will still be cataloged by Ms. Loup for potential future sale. Specifics not yet determined

Programs and Events --

\*Ms. Loup reported that the May program is still not firmed up, but Daniel Stewart has been contacted.

\*In reference to Ms. Jennings upcoming program on the history of schools in Traverse City, it was discussed having Richard Fidler present in the next season of the program series discussing the history of curriculum in the Traverse area Schools.

\*Amy Barritt from TADL has sent word via email that the library will not have a small "museum" space up and running for this summer, which had been presented as a possible space for TAHS to be involved with. Also, it came to her attention that the City Commission may be ready to discuss the future of the city's Con Foster collection.

\*Mr. Warner talked to UpNorth media regarding the videotaping of TAHS programs. Logistics still to be figure out.

\*Ms. Loup mentioned TAHS tours had been nominated for Traverse Magazine's Red Hot Best - voting competition. Members discussed promoting the contest by email and Facebook notifications.

\*Ms. Loup will organize a programs committee meeting to discuss the historical tour schedule and structure for promotion and marketing - meeting to include Ms. Siciliano, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Groleau, Mr. Hains and Richard Fidler.

Publications --

\*Ms. Schopieray mentioned 50 more books have been ordered.

**Public Comment:**

\*Mr. Hains noted the potential for liability issues pertaining to meetings of TAHS in a members home. Brief discussion of the possibility of an alternative meeting space, and if that would make board meetings more physically accessible and mentally welcoming to TAHS members. The Carnegie Library meeting space was brought up as a possibility. Ms. Loup said she would check into CommonSpace as a potential meeting space. More discussion to follow at a later date.

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at the society’s registered office at 6:00pm.  
  
The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.  
  
Respectfully submitted,  
  
Jen Loup, Programs and Events Committee Chair