

**Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Traverse Area Historical Society  
February 4th, Thirlby Room, TADL-Main Branch**

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

Absent: M. Groleau

Guest: Jordan Anderson

Meeting called to order at 6:29 by S. Siciliano

**Revisions to Agenda:**

Public comments moved to follow Secretary's report, anticipating a discussion with Jordan Anderson regarding possible videos of TAHS tours and program materials.

**Secretary's Report:**

Revisions to TAHS January 7th minutes include typos of changing "Membership Committee" to "Membership Report" and the name "Jordan Anderston" to "Jordan Anderson". S. Jennings moved to approve minutes as corrected, B. McCall seconded. All approved.

**Public Comment:**

Jordan Anderson of Midwestern Production presented to the TAHS board regarding possible video recording and production in relation to TAHS tours and other promotional materials.

S. Jennings suggested a possible video being helpful for school classrooms interested in presenting local history. P. Siciliano added support and mentioned the value of a 15 or 20 minute biography of local "founding fathers", which could be low budget. P. Siciliano will ask around to teachers to see if this could be useful, targeting middle to upper elementary school, from 3rd grade on.

Mr. Anderson discussed with the board the expenses associated with video recording and production. If TAHS board members and volunteers were to write a script and plan the video ahead of time, selecting specific images to be included, cost would be reduced.

S. Siciliano asked if we have ownership and/or access to the C-Span video which P. Siciliano participated in, detailing local Traverse City history, this past year.

B. McCall asked about old video footage of Traverse City being available, possibly to use in conjunction with new footage. It was mentioned TAHS could put out a call for home movie footage. Mr. Anderson suggested contacting the Camera Shop for names of local people which may have contacted the shop for home video restoration. B. McCall will contact the archivist at

Interlochen Arts Academy to see if they are in possession of any footage relating to Traverse City history.

P. Siciliano mentioned the value of having a short video promoting the TAHS downtown and Oakwood Cemetery tours. L. Hains suggested that in-person video of a guide conducting a tour may not be necessary, and a guide could record a voiceover with a pre-arranged script.

Board members inquired about pricing for various ideas for videos. Cost depends on the legwork involved in production and thus time. For example, if the photos to be used are readily available in a suitable format. Mr. Anderson's hourly rate is \$150.00 -- generally speaking it would take 8 hours to cut and edit 2 hours of footage.

P. Siciliano mentioned that a video of the Oakwood Cemetery tour could be recorded in chronological order instead of physical distance as in-person tours require.

The board discussed that some of the photos in the archives may need to be upgraded in the quality of digitization.

L. Hains noted that videos could be shown before TAHS programs. Mr. Anderson suggested a series of shorter videos could be produced.

A further discussion of specifics and possible video needs of the board will be added to the March agenda. L. Hains suggested we solicit quotes from other entities as well.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

The report was previously circulated by M. Groleau. Regarding the payment of \$150.00 to update Quickbooks, J. Warner moved to approve, B. McCall seconded. Motion approved.

Three checks issued by TAHS for students participating in Michigan History Day had been canceled. The board discussed next steps. P. Siciliano offered to approach the student's teachers about possibly re-issuing.

The CDs held at Chemical Bank for TAHS are set to mature - first being on the 8th of February now valued at \$5,100.24. That CD could be rolled over at the current rate of 2.37 percent for 11 months. L. Hains suggested shopping around for other CD options for the money and cash in from Chemical. The \$5,100.24 would then be deposited in the Lautner fund, as originally \$5,000.00 was taken out of each of the Lautner, Petertyl and general accounts. L. Hains motioned, S. Jennings seconded. Motion approved. S. Siciliano will withdraw the money.

M. Groleau may need to go into the bank with S. Siciliano, with a copy of TAHS minutes approving the change of M. Groleau to Treasurer, in order to change the name on the remaining CD.

**President's Report:**

The board discussed offering a gratis annual membership to TAHS for volunteers. The idea would be to have board members nominate volunteers they have worked with and a thank you, and that the recipient would not currently be a member. M. Groleau nominated Breanne E. Kerner who has been overseeing the TAHS newsletter, and S. Jennings nominated Amy Barritt for aid with the TAHS website.

L. Hains asked if another Square credit card reader could be obtained. It was discussed we would not manually type in credit card numbers.

Gini LeClaire will be ending her responsibilities handling the TAHS cell phone. J. Warner has agreed to take over with answering/logging calls. Questions regarding photo identification will go to P. Siciliano and Katherine with TADL. S. Jennings will send a thank-you note to Ms. LeClaire for her years of help.

Regarding the TAHS brochures in the purchased box at the Traverse City visitors center -- M. Groleau circulated an email detailing the idea of attaching the summer tour schedule to the printed materials. The board agreed the updated and printed schedule should include a note on suggested donations to TAHS for attending the tour, and a few details on what the donations are used for. L. Hains questioned the return on the purchase of the space, and suggested we try one more year of use.

The board discussed receiving responses from City Commissioners in reference to the Con Foster Museum collection under the ownership of Traverse City. Roger Putman had expressed interest in meeting with a few TAHS board members. P. Siciliano and L. Hains volunteered to meet with Mr. Putman. S. Siciliano will suggest a Friday meeting time to Commissioner Putman.

S. Siciliano spoke with the IT department at NMC in reference to the TAHS email lists, and set up Google groups. We still need to figure out an easy way to consolidate email blast lists.

B. McCall mentioned various news articles detailing the closure of Horizon Books. It seems perhaps the space may become a community meeting space of some sort, and the board agreed TAHS should pay attention as things develop.

The Michigan Council for Social Studies contacted TAHS as they will be having their conference this year at the Grand Traverse Resort and would like to collaborate. They have agreed to let TAHS be a vendor and sell books at the conference. Also, they are working on providing shuttles to downtown tours to be provided by TAHS tour guides. TAHS will suggest a \$10.00/person donation for the tours. These tours will take place either on April 17th or 18th. The board will have to plan on staffing for book selling as well as tour guides.

**Marketing Report:**

Circulated by M. Groleau prior to the meeting. Minimal discussion of topics included, the board will address at the next meeting.

**Membership Report:**

S. Jennings circulated the membership report via email. 166 total members. The board discussed how long to retain old membership records, and decided to keep up to one year's previous. Tabled the discussion of resuming the use/distribution of membership cards.

**Archives Report:**

P. Siciliano received an email from Michele Howard regarding the internship in the TADL archives. Library staff may have someone in mind, and P. Siciliano will follow-up with the conversation.

**Programs/Events Report:**

The board discussed possible programs for the 2020 library program season. Dave Pennington's program on area logging could be an option, as he asked which of his past programs were popular. P. Siciliano suggested Rich Brauer.

J. Loup will contact Branden Morgan about perhaps presenting his program on the history of Oakwood Cemetery on a Saturday in March, as he had previously expressed being busy on Sunday. She will also contact TADL to coordinate use of the room.

The library has requested a time change for TAHS programs for 2021- either 1-3 pm or 3-5 pm. The board decided to schedule the programs on Sundays, 3-5 pm.

J. Loup suggested a discussion of the Speakeasy events and possible similar future events be added to the agenda for March.

Board meeting adjourned 8:37 pm.