

BIGWILL BOARD MARCH 15, 2008

Present: Roger Higgs, Rich Dexter, Maureen Brady, Kathy Brady-Blake, Rollie Littlewood, Peg Gleich, Fran Higgs, Margaret Zook, Nancy Holder. Member Mary Mallow was a guest.

The position of Historian was discussed. Margaret Wilmot was nominated by Peg Gleich, seconded by Kathy Brady-Blake. Exactly what this position entails, or should include, was unclear. Historical records; scrapbook; Archived records? The issue was tabled to the next meeting to allow clarification of our thoughts, possible location of a storage place, and discussion with Margaret.

Our financial records have been examined by Fran Higgs, and found to be in good order. In Jackie's absence a move to accept the findings was made by Peg Gleich, seconded by Margaret Zook. Passed.

Peg will send out the final version of the Policies and Procedures book to Board Members for final proofing. Several changes are still pending, including relocating "Membership".

McHenry Library is making progress shelving our collection. We would like to hold an open house at the library when complete, with publicity. Margaret will follow up with the Library for feasibility and their agreement.

Promotion of Membership was discussed. Unpaid will be dropped. New members do get back issues of the Newsletter. Visitors/prospective members get two e-mail newsletters as encouragement. The membership year is a full calendar year.

Publicity expansion is planned. Maureen will provide a local Family History Center listing; Kathy Brady Blake will provide Lake County information.

Book Inventory and Storage – We have 4 copies of Paul's book left. We own all stock outright. Shipping is added to each invoice. Rollie Littlewood will add our inventory/price list to the website, with a brief statement "How To Order".

Storage of permanent records was discussed. It is possible McHenry Library will permit us to keep a locked 4-drawer file cabinet at the Library for our legal records, newsletter binders, etc.

Ideas for 2009 meeting programs were discussed. The panel in January was well received and can be repeated. A presentation on Irish Research and the Newberry Library holdings was also suggested. List will hopefully be completed by August 2008. Fees average \$100-\$150 per speaker.

There was no support for participation in Gene-O-Rama, however Rollie will be attending.

NGS - We need to submit two consecutive newsletters in a row by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Website – Three parts are labor intensive: 1.) the list of upcoming meetings/events - This is about 40 pages long; covers regional Illinois/Wisconsin items. Also select National events - British Institute, FGS, NGS etc. and major program relating to the British Isles. 2.) Book Reviews – Only about half are listed.

Susan Sincere was coding in HTML code. This is not in good shape. Possibly put out as is, quick and dirty. 3.) The Register. Includes how to complete the Register Sheet.

The Register is published about every four years; last done November 2006. 1 copy free if picked up at meeting; otherwise \$3. The Register is more than just surnames; it includes locations, and time frames. Benefit is to members. All are findable by Google. Rollie has put Register on-line.

\*\*\* Rollie will write an article about what can be found on our website. Rich Dexter has agreed to write an article; and Peg Gleich will write one for October.

We may do another Member Survey in Fall 2008. Speaker ideas for future programs have been found this way.

It was agreed a Board meeting will be held in May; then none during the Summer unless specifically needed and called which is not anticipated. A planning meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 13<sup>th</sup> in Beloit. Several members will not be able to make the May meeting (Rich, Peg, Maureen).

New member flyer needs updating; Nancy and Peg volunteered. Upcoming national/state conferences were discussed – NGS, FGS, ISGS, WSGS. We can send a delegate to FGS in Philadelphia right after Labor Day. Rollie Littlewood plans to attend. A motion was made by Peg Gleich to designate Rollie and pay for the luncheon; seconded by Rich Dexter. Passed.

Margaret Kurzynski has turned over old financial records she found, including a few old checks which have long since been straightened out. Filing taxes was discussed. 501c3 is okay; but our Illinois Tax Exemption request failed. We can not make purchases tax free, and must pay taxes on what we sell. Tax flow generally is the guiding principle – under \$25,000 – no tax filing.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 PM.