

Benton County Genealogy Society
P.O. Box 1646
Philomath, OR 97370

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 9, 2014
10:00 AM - Philomath Library

1. **Call to Order:** Ron called the meeting to order at 10:10am. Those attending: Ron, Katie, Faye, Linda, Lois, Sue, Connie and Mary Jo.
2. **Minutes:** Copies of the November 4, 2014, minutes were distributed by e-mail and reviewed and approved by those members present with the spelling correction of a name.
3. **President**
 - a. Ballots will be available for last minute voting of new officers. The Ballots will be counted by Mary Jo, Membership Chair and results announced at Saturday's General meeting.
 - b. Ron will call the meeting to order and Faye will install new officers prior to the program on January 10, 2015.
 - c. Faye agreed to continue as Past President.
 - d. Reimbursements will be allowed for printing copies of newsletters sent to members who have requested their newsletters be mailed. The extra \$5 charged for this service really only covers the mailing expense, not the printing costs.
 - e. Ron may be providing respite care out of state for 3 months. His schedule may be flexible and dates are unknown at this time.
4. **Past President - No report**
5. **Vice President/Programs**
 - *December will be our annual holiday Auction following the General meeting. The auction process was discussed, and Ted Gump was suggested as the auctioneer again as well as Sandra Potter to record purchases and collect the auction proceeds. Faye will bring the numbered cards.
 - *Katie has contacted Emily Aulicino for a presentation on DNA. The March 2015 program date has been confirmed.
 - *Dana Sanchez has agreed to help Katie with publicizing our programs. Heavily publicizing our programs in multiple ways could bring in more members.
 - *Touring the Historical Museum to find out what's available there will be our January 2015 program. Katie will confirm this program with Mary Gallagher.
 - *Future programs could include offering genealogy classes. (See New Business)
6. **Committee Reports**
 - a. **Membership:** Mary Jo reported that 12 members had paid dues. More are anticipated by January. A membership form will be in the next newsletter. A discussion developed around the process of the membership payments and filling out membership forms.
 - b. **Treasurer/Finance Committee:** Lois reviewed the large one-time yearly expenses and reported that our current balance is \$3,988.87.
 - c. **Publications Committee:** Web, Book sales, Newsletter, Brochures/Posters
 - ***Newsletter:** Brad Fuqua is willing to continue with the newsletter. Ron will continue to receive and distribute the newsletters. Brad will be invited to attend the Board meetings as his time allows.

*** Webmaster:**

1. Faye explained that there may be financial implications with the new web page that Danell was developing. Our society may owe a fee over an undetermined amount of time for maintenance of the new web page. Ron will follow-up with Danell.
2. Linda's husband, Ron Olsen, updated the old society web page with current membership dues of \$20/\$25. Linda explained that Ron was willing to help maintain the old web site until a new webmaster takes over. A new web page would require someone with updated skills.

d. Audit committee: Faye reported that the Audit report will be presented at the January 2015 Board Meeting.

7. Library Committee:

*Sue suggested that one or the other of the two printers in the library could be sold at the auction. She will evaluate them to decide which one may be a candidate for the auction.

* The library inventory is completed and now they are sorting out the problems.

*The next inventory will be scheduled in early June 2015.

8. Unfinished Business:

- a. Updating board and committee roles and responsibilities (place saver until completed)
- b. Publications: Should we post our society books for sale on our website for free access due to the low volume of sales? A discussion on this subject concluded with the idea to display our publications at the General meetings and program times. Perhaps if these items were more visible, they may be more attractive to our members.

9. New Business

a. Charging non-members to attend our programs vs free to everyone was discussed. The consensus was to allow non-members to attend free as a welcoming introduction to our society which could attract more members.

b. Round table topics were also discussed as a way to offer a variety of subjects ranging in interest from the beginner genealogist to topics more suitable to experienced genealogists.

c. There is some interest in offering beginning genealogy classes. Taking a poll at our meetings on ideas for topics members want to know more about was discussed. We would need volunteers for teachers. Do we want to focus just on beginning genealogy topics or focus on topics designed just to attract new members?

b. Digital newsletters sent to us from other societies have been printed in the past. Do we want to continue printing them? Some suggestions were to put them on a disk instead of printing them. They are used very little. Posting our own newsletters online was discussed.

9. Other: Who is and who is not a voting member of the Board will be discussed further.

10. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary