

Benton County Genealogy Society
P.O. Box 1646
Philomath, OR 97370
541.929.6246

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 28, 2011
3:00 pm, Philomath Community Library,
1050 Applegate, Philomath, OR 97370

A. Call to Order:

Margaret called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.

Those attending: Margaret, Gene, Earle, Judy, Grace, Mary Jo, Lee and Bill.

B. Minutes:

The minutes of the February 28th Board Meeting were reviewed and corrections and clarifications made on three items. Clarifications are underlined.

1. Under "D. Unfinished Business":

Keeping living charter (life-time) members on our current membership list was discussed. If we lose contact with members, but we are not sure if they are deceased, they should remain on the list. When we are certain that a member is deceased, then his or her name should be removed from the list. Margaret will add this to our policy list.

2. Under "2. b. Treasurer/Finance Committee":

b. Changing our calendar year from the current January/December time to September/August was discussed, and a decision was made to continue the current system of January to December.

3. Under "3. Membership":

Discussion developed around who needs to know when new members are added and how paid membership receipts should be given/sent to members and how membership lists should/should not be shared. Membership lists are updated regularly and given to the President, Treasurer, Newsletter person and Library Chairman.

The February 28th Board Meeting Minutes were approved as noted with corrections.

C. Committee Reports:

1. President

*In honor of Gene Newcomb's many years of service for our society and his years of service as Treasurer, Margaret presented him with a gift and the group warmly acknowledged his dedication and years of service.

*Margaret announced that Earle Greig was nominated for the Benton County Historic Resource Service Award in recognition for his numerous donations, life-long service and expertise which he generously shares. He has a wealth of knowledge about the King family and other associated surnames and the Kings Valley Cemetery. The Award will be presented by the Historic Resources Commission on Saturday, May 21, 2011, 4:00 to 6:00pm at the Lewisburg (St. Anne's) Grange.

2. Past President

Margaret will be gone in May and asked Bill to preside over May's meeting and program.

3. Vice President/Programs

Margaret brought several copies of the poster she produced for the April meeting to give to anyone who wished to post them. Margaret reviewed the April program which will feature Japanese Americans in Oregon. The May program will be presented by Beverly Whitmore on the topic of migration from east to west. June will be our annual picnic.

Programs are booked through January. September is sharing your summer genealogical activities and discoveries. Nancy Basque is responsible for October's program, Marlene McDonald is presenting a program about her great-grandfather, William Blodgett. December is our annual Holiday Party, and Faye is presenting a program in January 2012. The board could begin thinking about selecting a paid speaker as money has been budgeted for a paid speaker.

If we are going to have a raffle this year, we need donated items of value as prizes. At the April General Meeting, Margaret will ask if anyone wants to have a raffle this year and if anyone has items of value to donate for a raffle. The raffle could be held in combination with the June picnic. If the raffle doesn't materialize then discussing "breaking down brick walls" could be an alternate informal topic with member participation encouraged.

Placing program notices and information in a convenient location in the library was discussed. A labeled file in the top file cabinet drawer was determined to be the best place.

Margaret read a note from Susan about some thoughts she had about programs. A discussion developed around providing programs in general and especially those programs that may bring in more members. Providing programs for a variety of interests and different genealogical levels of expertise is a challenge. The Program survey indicated interests generally fell into 3 categories: (1) to inform, (2) ancestors in historical context, and (3) entertainment. Having a program committee is still the best idea. Until a program committee can be assembled, volunteers who have stepped up to provide a program will be directed to use the multiple resources available. Margaret will provide some direction but let the presenters conduct the programs their own way.

4. Treasurer/Finance Committee

Judy is meeting with Jerry who did the audit review, and she is in the process of setting up a spread sheet using Excell. She has balanced the bank statement, made a deposit and written several checks. The balance is \$3,934.39.

Membership: Mary Jo had reviewed the membership list which also includes family members. The total number of individual memberships + family members is 99. Margaret mentioned that 20% of our membership is involved as board members and/or committee members. Mary Jo asked members to let her know if they recognize any BCGS member in the obituaries.

5. Publication Committee

No books sold.

6. Library Committee

Grace indicated that Leila and Nancy have been working on sorting the Mabelle Martsching collections. Margaret clarified that the library committee includes all staff members involved with the library.

Grace will bring a sign up sheet to the April meeting for the library inventory to be held on June 7th.

7. Audit Committee

Bill will check to see if our BCGS library is available on Saturdays for the Audit committee to meet since the Philomath Community Library is not currently available.

8. Other

Margaret encouraged board members to take a look at the Society History books stored in the BCGS library closet.

Historic Preservation month is in May. Many activities and tours are planned.

D. Unfinished Business

1. Finances

Judy indicated that she will have more information at the next meeting.

Judy is not currently signing checks and will wait until the new calendar year to make the switch, and will most likely be changing banks at the same time.

Margaret guided a discussion about the process of collecting money, mainly dues. How will the money flow to Judy, and how will members receive a receipt? An informal system seems to work fine and Gene is happy to collect funds at the Saturday meetings and pass it along to Judy. Mary Jo may collect dues and pass it on to Judy also. Mary Jo may send an electronic e-mail receipt. Only one receipt book was thought to be necessary.

E. New Business

1. Book Purchases

It was suggested that we purchase a new book on Coastal Indians. Margaret will purchase the book for our library.

It was decided that Margaret will purchase books in memory of two members who recently passed away—a book on Ohio to honor Mary Yoke and a book on Oregon to honor Joan Froelich.

Nancy checked with Daniel Froelich about a book to purchase in memory of his mother. Also a book will be purchased in memory of Mary Yoke.

G. Adjournment

Adjourned at 4:35pm

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olsen, Secretary
[audio transcription]