

Austin Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes February 28, 2020, 6:00-8 pm.

Present: Nan Kilkeary, Rob Richardson, Jim Bridges, Karen Liston, Elizabeth Price, Diane Harvey Anderson, Erin Garcia, Beverly Pritchett, and Pat Murphree

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm.

Treasurer's Report - 2020 Budget Review

Due to the deficit currently in the 2020 Budget, a cursory review of the budget was conducted by the Board. Some steps being taken to reduce the deficit are as follows:

Deduct website costs from Reserve Fund

Actions need to be taken to increase membership, since it is one of the sole means of funding the society. Membership is down this year and some currently participating members still need to pay 2020 dues.

Programs will eliminate out-of-town speakers to reduce travel costs.

Events will be designed to produce minor profits, which will help to cover liability insurance.

Seminar will look for ways to reduce costs and increase participation.

Other considerations discussed were that the budget needs to be part of the strategic planning process. Conservatively we may lose \$7000 each year, if we continue to have expenditures as we have historically.

Jim Bridges proposed seeking out vendors/sponsors for the quarterly publication and meeting. He will draft a proposal.

The Board voted to established a financial review committee of Nan Kilkeary, Erin Garcia, and Rob Richardson. All Board members must review their contributions/losses and send recommendations for mitigating the deficit to them prior to the strategic planning session.

President's Discussion -

AGS Website Update:

Creating a dynamic website is costly.

A very basic version has been developed that includes pages for About, Resources, Cemeteries, DNA Resources, Quarterly, Pioneers, and Events and Welcome. Web developers will finish the development and maintain it in the future.

Neon will remain our background database and Nan Kilkeary will continue to develop it. Monthly emails plus interim email updates will take the place of the dynamic aspect of our communication.

Email Communication:

Everyone needs to send Nan updates of interest.

Programs

Topic table leads for the March meeting will not be paid
Outside travel will be limited.

Project Management – Initiative Planning

Rob explained the process of initiative planning.

Anything that spends money or starts a new program, for example sponsorship marketing should be done in this method. This also directly lends itself to writing up board job descriptions.

Secretary

As a part of strategic planning, Beverly Pritchett will develop a timeline for the Board of required activities based on Bylaws and activities.

She will also help orient new Board members by doing a short demonstration on the use of Slack at the Strategic Planning session.

Events:

Proposed event schedule for 2020 is as follows:

April – Houston excluding the Easter weekend on Apr 12th

June – Seminar

July – Fort Worth excluding the weekend of July 4th

September – Visit to German Texan Heritage Society

Strategic Planning

A strategic planning session will be held March 8th at Beverly Pritchett's house.

2020 Seminar/Bootcamp

Bootcamp – only one registration was received so it was canceled. Advertising may have not been sufficient.

Seminar –

Contract is signed. We need to look for ways to limit budget and increase advertising.

Next Meeting: March 8th at Beverly Pritchett's house for strategic planning. Regularly scheduled Board meeting on March 12th is cancelled.