

## Austin Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes May 13, 2021, 7:03 – 8:40

Meeting called to order by Diane at 7:04 pm. We have a quorum. with Diane Harvey, Karen Liston, Tracey Marcelo, Pat Murphree, Nan Kilkeary, Elizabeth Price and Max Trenck.

The minutes from the April meeting were approved.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Diane has signature form for Erin. Elizabeth is on the account and has a debit card.

### MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

- Karen reports 183 total members, with 15 Life and 15 family memberships.
- Twelve joined this month, and two today, most joining thru website.
- Membership info was not damaged through previous hack.
- Karen has emailed those who did not renew last year to advise them

### WEBSITE

- Tabs have added to site and Diane says that makes it easy to update.
- Who gets notifications? PMP inside WP is Paid Membership Pro – reports its activities to webmaster – got setup somehow that Ken McMoran was being notified multiple times a day about small things such as password changes.
- Make the webmaster info to go to a mailbox – Kim would set this up for us on the website.
- Nan says we should be down to Kim, Karen, Diane and Max as admins, and Tracey an editor. Nan will be an editor after all revisions are complete.

### PROGRAMS

- Pat is waiting until next week before firming up the next couple of programs.
- Thomas McEntee is doing program on upcoming 1950 census is possible for next meeting.
- Possible session of German families held in Crystal City Texas during WW2. Germans and Italians and German families were rounded up from the Caribbean and brought to Crystal City TX.
- Possible talk on Japanese internment camps in California.
- In Person Meetings? – contacted by church – church is checking. Do we return to in-person meetings? Pat indicates Zoom is scheduled for the rest of the year. Perhaps a live meeting once a quarter in 2022.
- The possibility of Zoom speaker in the church raises the question of having an ethernet cable available. Then there is a \$300 speaker on Zoom. Speaker setup at church can be problematic as John Marostica used to handle that – it's up to us.
- We need to have a survey to see if people would turn out for an in-person meeting.
- Nan will send an email blast that we are sticking with Zoom for rest of 2021.
- Comments that topics in the Zoom meetings are so much better.
- Live session is an idea with people doing show and tell with family memorabilia.

17 May 20212

- Diane received an email about programs and LLI. Coordinator has been contacted. Looking for someone to coordinate an 8 week 2 hr/week class not necessarily to teach Pat questions if LLI will survive pandemic. LLI thinks they are not considering anything until Spring – in limbo. John taught maybe 3 out of 8 weeks, brought in some speakers, but many of those have moved on to other things. Diane will continue discussion with LLI and contact some of the possible speakers. There is no one like John who will take over the entire program. Pat stated that people had to help John setup and take down tables and chairs at every meeting, a great physical effort for all. Significant effort for insignificant gain.
- Diane says we may want to consider a 2-hour Genealogy intro class broken up to 20 minute sessions – much more manageable. 2-hours a week is more manageable for someone getting started with genealogy.

#### FILES

- New passwords for Google Workspace needed for Karen and Nan. Max will send these out.
- Max will check on file sharing
- Discounts available on hardware and software through TechSoup. Nan asked about discounted items for members. Max thought that the discounted items would be for the Board only.

#### COMMUNICATION TEMPLATE POSSIBILITIES FOR FUTURE

- Belinda- Constant Contact format such as Dallas uses.
- Getting AGS Zoom account for future use.
- Came away from TSGS seminar about engaging members. Website is done and looks great and allows us to move forward for future members. And Google Workspace will help the future.

#### SUMMER SEMINAR

- All seems to be a go with Diahn's seminar – need advertisement for this.
- Putting a blurb on website is good, but we need a registration form that links to a PayPal process. Perhaps Diane, Tracey and Max can look for a video on how to do that. PayPal may have a template to enable such a registration and payment process.
- Diahn can announce it on her webpage.
- Need text on home page on Summer Seminar with button for registration

#### PUBLICITY

- We need to publicize the seminar.
- Can Google Workspace help advertise?
- Does anyone know about Facebook advertising?
- Discussion on FB page, seemingly run by Kay Boyd. Followed by 1K+ people. Maybe run by Jane? None of us are admins on this page and one of us should be.
- If we start using the Members Helping Members page on FB, Diane says, that is key: she is posting through the Members page and it can be posted to this page as well.
- Pat suggested the FB page should have the same image as the website – for continuity. Diane is uncertain if Jane would allow that. We need to post on both pages. There was much discussion on

17 May 20213

various FB pages related to AGS, page, Writing SIG, Friends Helping Friends. Diane says she does not need to be an admin to post things.

- Members Helping Members had post today and is used frequently, a lot.
- The AGS page was used today, Diane was surprised it is used this year. Nan says we should be posting meetings there. This is a page, not a group – people follow the page.

#### OTHER ISSUES

#### FUTURE MEETINGS:

- Board Meetings:
  - June 10
  - July 8
  - August 12
- General Meeting:
  - April 27

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.