AGS Board of Directors Agenda

Aug 11, 2022

7 pm – Zoom conferencing

CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM at 7:05 pm, present were:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Y** | **Diane Harvey Anderson** | N | Becky Konen | **Y** | **Kris Murphy** |
| N | Belinda Brouette | **Y** | **Karen Liston** | **Y** | **Elizabeth Price** |
| N | Ann Elbert | N | Tracey Marcelo | **Y** | **Max Trenck** |
| **Y** | **Richard Gruetzner** | **Y** | **Pat Murphree** | **Y** | **Debbie Ulczynski** |

Debbie said there is a possibility that if we wanted an outside meeting at the State Cemetery, we could have it there. There is a meeting room used as a family room when there is a service at the State Cemetery. We might could do something for a larger group outside. Patricia (Trish) Andrews, Debbie’s sister, would be the contact, and we could use her as a guide.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the July 2022 meeting were approved.

TREASURER’S REPORT

* 54 registered for the seminar. A couple of people have paid twice. Anyone can check the spreadsheet in the Shared Drive, Meeting Attendance, then spreadsheet for 2022 Summer Seminar. Open this to see paid attendance.
* Savings account has $15K+. In checking just over $12K+. Elizabeth is not yet caught up on reports.
* Diane mentioned the GLO and a possible donation. Pat followed up with Nan on previous donations. Pat says we have been at Silver Level; in the past we had been more concerned with balancing the budget. Silver Level is $500 donation. There is a two-day event, the 11th Save Texas History Symposium, where we could setup a display table. The event is at the ATT Center downtown, on the UT campus. They expect a few hundred people attending. For this amount of donation, we get listings on their program, on their website, mentioned at the Symposium, and two people to attend certain social functions. There is SWAG, and you get to meet people who share your passion – according to Elizabeth. Unanimous vote to make the $500 donation.

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION:

TECHNOLOGY CORNER:

* Website –
  + In an effort to enhance the features of the AGS website, Max requests that the Board consider adding a “Business Links” page for members. Max continues to describe the businesses Monocurate (Brooke Lake, who was at the Archivists’ Bazaar) and Artifcts (Ellen Goodwin), both of which provide a fee-based service to track peoples’ heirlooms and genealogy-related papers. He has met with both firms and thinks these could be useful to our members. The suggested “Business Links” page would have a disclaimer at the top, as well as a “warning”, such as on Ancestry.com, that the user is leaving the AGS website for a completely separate for-profit site. Also, Ellen Goodwin of Artifcts has extended a 15% discount to any AGS Board Member wishing to begin a subscription. The discount is available to enrollees through July 25 and is Roots2022.
  + Due to issues, Max has been unable to move forward on the cemetery pages on the AGS website, and hopes to resume work in the very near future.
  + When people fill out info in the Communications on the website, it does not go to Communications@. Diane added her email and she gets the email but not Communications@. It was thought that Communications@ should be Admin, that change was made and I (Max Trenck) was locked out. Max placed a call to Tech Support at InMotion Hosting to be made Admin again. Still, need to work out this Communications@ issue.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

* More than last year, members. 215 members currently. Unknown is how many members there were before COVID.
* Next step is to send out an official for people to join the Membership Directory.

CHURCH AND RECORDS –

* Diane received a call from the Church about AGS’ items there in filing cabinets. And she has not yet tried to scan the 2019 records, nor reviewed actually what needs to be scanned. Diane thinks we should scan those records and keep them on the Google Drive. Also, we have two huge file cabinets there. Richard said that he will take them. There are also some Fall decorations and Karen suggested those things can go to Goodwill.
* Max mentioned the ramifications of scanning files in Color vs B&W, B&W is preferable to keep file sizes as small as possible to save space on Google Drive.
* Elizabeth is still concerned with how long financial records of a NonProfit should be saved
* Do we want to consider no longer meeting at the Church? 2020 is the year that everything changed. We discussed the possibility of meeting in person once per quarter.
* There are several community centers in various parts of Austin that could be meeting places.

QUARTERLY –

* Lisa said she only had two submissions, and would like to have it come out in October. She was asking if the articles should be focused on Travis County; We should allow surrounding counties and the rest of Texas. Publication in October would allow for a social media campaign.
* We feel that it should be open to all of Texas

COMMUNICATION WITH MEMBERS

PROGRAMS

* Monthly Meetings
  + Aug – Summer Seminar
  + Sep – Dana Leeds – Case Study with review of Leeds method
  + Oct – Lock-in, there will be a specific page with our logo on their website. People will sign up through AGS. We put up a signup sheet and we send out a link.
  + Nov – Generally the Fall Festival, but not this year.
    - We could have a meeting on the 15th, over a week before Thanksgiving.
    - There are several ideas for a program.
    - Pat mentioned previous November speakers of Michael Barnes, the late Jim B last year,
    - Sue Kaufman on filling in family history filling in with social history,
    - Possibly Bob Buckalew on KVUE – stories about Austin for the most part. Cost unknown.
    - Or there could be a program on Cemeteries. Tracey and Pat attended a seminar on preserving cemeteries given by two ladies, likely Pat could get one of them to speak.
    - Another option is to have someone who had done Genealogical Travels to speak. Pat has done extensive traveling abroad and in US.
* Seminar
  + 25 paid attendees was our break-even point, we have 55 enrolled. Handouts are ready.

OTHER PROGRAMS

OTHER BUSINESS

* None

NEXT BOARD MEETINGS:

* September 8
* October 13
* November 10

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:44 pm.