AGS Board of Directors Agenda

December 14, 2023

7 pm – Zoom conferencing

• Call to order/quorum 7:03 pm

Diane Harvey **Y** ~~Ann Elbert~~ Max Trenck **Y**

Karen Liston **Y** ~~Tracey Marcelo~~ Patricia Murphree **Y**

Elizabeth Price **Y** ~~Kris Murphy~~ **???** ~~Belinda Brouette~~

~~Richard~~ ~~Gruetzner~~ Debbie Ulczynski **Y** ~~Adeliza Tiffany~~

Reneé Lasswell **Y**

• Approval of November 2023 minutes Y

• Treasurer’s report checking $ 10,245.81, savings $ 15,697.83. Money coming in as members rejoin. Frost Bank ax needs to check exp date of card on file at InMotion.

o New PO Box - move to Feb 2024. Elizabeth supplies all her own office supplies, she had to buy ink for her printer.

o 2024 budget – should we print budget, all look, then we finalize it. 15 new people in December, Bring budget to Jan meeting, ahead of meeting, in Jan mtg we discuss, then finalize in Feb mtg.

Issues for discussion:

• Membership update

o Membership drive – in drive, Karen sent 2 emails to begin renewal campaign, and another. 60 members at this moment. Later start on membership drive this year. Posted on Members Helping Members. Cannot post on regular AGS FB page. Some questioned increased rates; meeting spaces this year rather than all Zoom, better pay for better speakers, Shirley did not ask, nor did we offer speaking on writing and publishing a Family History Book in January. Financial hardship for some was discussed and if they contact Diane or Karen, scholarship/savings funds can be used to pay or help pay for membership dues, likely depending upon that person’s recent activity.

o 1845 Timeline Project – Diane and Tracey have written articles, getting people to share their stories of what their ancestors were doing around the world the year that Texas received statehood. Still in formulation process, maybe share this in next newsletter. Still need Texas story written. If someone wants to write the Texas story, that is fine. Renee offers editing copy services to anyone. Or people who “had a role” in Texas becoming a state. (Cole) Diane to discuss with Belinda maybe putting this into a special newsletter ????? *Adeliza has worked on newsletters and may be willing to work with Belinda on this.* Maybe get ChatGPT to write Texas History Story on this Renee mentions. *Interesting!*

o Survey analysis – Diane impressed by Renee’s analysis of the survey results. Very helpful. Added thoughts for future surveys and how we can alter the survey questions to avoid biases. Survey analysis was reviewed. Renee suggested another survey be done questioning those who chose not to renew their membership, and that, over time, the “small number” of respondents will build up over time and be more meaningful. .

• Technology corner

o Website cover pictures – hope to have test page this week.

Tech Corner Blog- Defining Categories (*Windows, Apple, Scams, Breaches…*..) and Tags (???)

• Programs

o January 23 – room at DRC reserved – Shirley Meyer and hybrid model. Room is setup for hybrid Diane will meet with them in Jan, maybe week 1 or 2 to meet with Rita, the admin there. Renee may also be there Chase Bank Bldg, Capitol Plaza I35 NB at 5407 North IH 35 Service Rd, 4th floor of the Bank building. At 183 intersection. Shirley working on a PPoint, Debbie updated her on how to bring the file. Shirley will be at the DRC “Writing a Family History and Publishing a Family History.” Diane asked Debbie for a bio of Shirley, and a paragraph of the presentation for the newsletter.

Feb, etc, need to work on.

• Officer positions and elections for 2024

o President – Diane suggests Debbie, who is not too excited about this.

o Programs – Diane will with input from people, Debbie wants here. Pat suggests we need a larger pool of folks to step up.

o Tech people – Max

o Make some positions not time-limited? Typical run is 1 or 2 years.

Renee suggested that some positions should be shared by 2 people, and duties can be traded back and forth, or split, although this may or may not be within the bylaws.

• Looking ahead for 2024

• Other business

o Real Places conference, TX Historical Commission, April 3 – 5, not yet received a request for sponsorship

o Austin Archives Bazaar (6th annual) – Sunday, April 14, Scholz Garten and Saengerrunde Halle

• Next board meetings:

o January 11

o February 8

o March 14

Meeting adjourned at 9:03

Send instructions on Shared Drive to Pat and Debbie.

Pass instructions by Renee for review.