

BIGWILL BOARD MEETING MINUTES – 17 February 2007
Nippersink Library

Meeting called to order by President Peggy Gleich. Present: Kathy Brady-Blake, Maureen Brady, Roger Higgs, Margaret Zook.

Minutes of last meeting accepted as published/distributed – motion by Roger Higgs, seconded by Maureen.

Treasurer Jackie Torrance was unable to attend. Maureen agreed to assist as part of a Budget Committee with Peg, and Jackie. Input welcome from all. Old budget sheets will be sent to Maureen as guidelines and idea generators.

Newsletter – Several items have been sent to Dan for inclusion in next issue; deadline is tomorrow evening.

Membership –Copies of renewals received by mail are sent to/kept by Peg, Jackie, and Dan. There is a lag time in this system. Copies of any budget items are sent to entire Board. An outreach program was discussed, whereby a speaker with overheads or a PowerPoint presentation would be available to address other genealogical groups. It would be a brief potted history, descriptions of benefits, activities, library resources, etc. A canned, loosely scripted presentation might be developed to be available to any member to present to other groups with which they have connections.

Programs - September meeting has been cancelled, encouraging members to attend our Sherry Irvine Seminar. The September presenter (Hibbard) has been moved to March 2008. 2007 is fully scheduled. Roger will connect with the Speakers Guild groups at NGS for ideas.

Ideas presented for the January meeting(s) to provide an extra incentive for members to come out into the cold, yet not involve a speaker in a potentially low attendance month, included presenting case histories/case studies, and a panel discussion focusing on problem solving, responding to questions from members. Panel members might include such people as Bobbie Briggs, Kathy Brady-Blake, Maureen Brady, and other members who have experience in breaking through apparent dead ends and brick walls. (“The harder I work, the luckier I get”. Roger Higgs) Show And Share has also been successful.

Possible future workshop speakers might include Jim Hansen, Cindy Howells, and George Sweitzer on the Scotch=Irish; perhaps a split program with Karl Moore or Dan Kane on researching in the Illinois State Archives, balanced with Wisconsin Area Research Centers (ARC).

OLD BUSINESS:

Budget for Sherry Irvine Seminar was discussed. Several committees and/or volunteer opportunities have been identified and not yet filled, including the Book Sale Table, Room Hostess, Greeters, Signs, and Publicity. Sign up sheets will be circulated at the March meeting. What books to sell must still be identified.

Peg has created the announcement sheet, and the registration brochure. Copies were distributed to Board Members for area distribution to libraries and other genealogical

groups/meetings. Registration form will be put on web site. Maureen will e-mail to all societies for inclusion in calendars; and brochures will be mailed to them.

Several logistics questions were raised, and will be addressed when Peg and Margaret visit the Clock Tower on 28 February.

Policy and Procedures Manual draft has been completed by Susan Sincere, Rollie, and Peg. Copy will be sent by Margaret to each Board Member for editing and pre-approval. Each member received a copy of the Deed of Gift form at the Board meeting.

Newsletter Index – Margaret agreed to begin creating an ‘every name’ index of all BIGWILL newsletter issues. An article index already exists on PERSI by Allan County. There may be a partial index, Margaret will check with Dave Dexter.

Opportunities to Display – It was decided not to attempt the WSGS/GAR in Oconomowoc, WI 12-13 April 2007. It was agreed to man a table at the Arlington Heights Fair Day on May 5th, 2007 from 10-4.

British Isles Certificate Program was discussed at length to bring in money. Potential book possibility; see WSGS books at our Library. Chicago Genealogical Society has a good set of guidelines. The Chicago and the Ohio Genealogical Society programs were discussed. Peg will check out guidelines. Storage/access are also an issue.

Library Move/Location of New Space - The McHenry Library has been approached about providing space for our collection. Questions they have raised include the actual amount of shelf space, and the cataloging system. They cannot immediately provide shelf space, due to their own space restrictions; however may be able to provide storage in their warehouse with limited access via a printed list, and/or addition to their web site catalog. McHenry has a library board meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 20th. A proposal will be provided to them for that meeting. An inquiry will also be made to see if their meeting room might be available the third Saturday of every other month, so that our meetings could again coincide with a library research opportunity each time. Tentative plans for a packing day at Nippersink have been set for after the March meeting. It will be an opportunity to severely edit the old newsletters currently in our collection. Genoa City Library is also being approached as an ideal location.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.