

Kentucky Genealogical Society Board Meeting
June 30, 2022

Minutes

1. Welcome

President Chris Padgett opened the meeting at 6:04 pm EDT. He confirmed that we had a quorum. Other board members in attendance were Kathy Keyser, Cyndi Hanes, Tricia Aanderud, Jeri Steele, Teri Pfeffer, Melissa Barker, and Susan Court.

2. Approve Minutes, Final Report and Budget

- a. With no objections, the minutes from the last meeting were approved.
- b. Cyndi Hanes reported that she would present a Financial Report at the September meeting. Cyndi also mentioned that she was having a problem with Quick Books. Lastly, she pointed out that we had \$62,598 in the bank.
- c. Chris mentioned that we/he needed to follow up on the Society's CD which is scheduled for renewal soon (September?). His earlier outreach to the Credit Union in Frankfort has gone unanswered. He also said that we need to find a better financial institution for this purpose. Perhaps Cyndi could be on the lookout.
- d. Chris asked Cyndi to explore alternatives to Pay Pal for membership dues payment as he frequently gets complaints about Pay Pal. One suggestion to explore was Stripe.
- e. As a separate matter, someone brought up planning for KYGS's 50th anniversary next year. The topic was informally tabled but one that needed further discussion.

3. Old business.

There was none.

4. New business.

Chris proposed that we institute an Ambassador Membership program where Board members would be given 10 complimentary memberships to give to non-members with whom they are working or who they believe would appreciate KYGS membership. Kathy Keyser mentioned that she has developed a form which could be completed for that purpose. She indicated she would send the draft to Chris. After further discussion, a motion to establish the Ambassador program was made by Melissa Barker, seconded by Kathy, and approved unanimously (and enthusiastically).

5. Committee reports.

- a. Membership (Kathy Keyser)

Kathy reported that membership was going well, and that she planned on posting statistics monthly. We have members from across the country and overseas.

Kathy also reported that she has four new Front Porch volunteers whom she will be training soon and with whom she will be meeting in August.

Kathy then discussed the Kentucky History and Genealogy Conference to be held on August 19-20 at the Knicely Conference Center (on the campus of WKU) in Bowling Green. Cyndi will attend; Jeri and Kathy may attend. Susan will prepare a handout to promote KYGS, which she will send to Cyndi for printing and distribution. We may have a table at the venue. Finally, we will distribute One-Year Institutional Memberships to the Libraries in attendance.

b. Grant Committee (Susan Court)

Susan reported that she met with the full Grant Committee on June 16, to review their roles and to lay out a revised schedule for the Grant Program outreach. With respect to that outreach, she hopes to enlist the assistance of volunteers to follow up the upcoming email “blast” with telephone calls as she fears many of the emails which she sent to two relevant sets of organizations during the initial Collaboration outreach went into spam folders. The telephone follow-up would take place in August.

Susan brought the Board up to date on the issue facing the current grantee Green County Public Library whose digitizer went out of business. The Library had a problem at first getting their records back. They then needed a digitizer and eventually reached out to the one used by the Cynthiana-Harrison County Library for the Log Cabin project. Unfortunately, their grant was short by \$1,268.42. After some discussion, the Board agreed to increase Green County’s grant by that amount with the Board. Moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

c. KYGS-FS Collaboration (Susan Court)

Susan Court reported that there are now eight volunteers (and herself) working on the Collaboration. Their first regular meeting was held on June 27. They will meet once a month on the fourth Thursday at 5:45 pm eastern time. Susan briefly reported on the status of the outreach for the project and learned that information had been posted on Facebook. Chris mentioned that it had generated considerable response. She then showed an overview of activity across the state (counties assigned and counties which have contacted us). Lastly, she reported on the Zoom meeting which Chris and she attended with representatives from KDLA and FamilySearch. The prospects look good that FamilySearch may digitize the

immense collection of genealogically significant records which KDLA has on microfilm.

d. Volunteers (Teri Pfeffer)

Teri reported that she is developing a structure for keeping track of the volunteers and is asking anyone working with volunteers to give her a list with beginning and end dates of their commitment. She is also working on plans to recruit new volunteers and going back to members who have volunteered in the past.

e. Communications & Website (Tricia Aanderud)

Tricia mentioned that her report on communications would be circulated on Friday. She elaborated that she was talking to website companies as our website is “clunky”. Even Chris acknowledged that it is even difficult for him to find things on it. Tricia then presented a preview of a new and improved website. One of the issues raised by this website would be that data which we currently keep “behind the pay wall” – in particular, the digitized records of prior grantees – would need to come up front. As Chair of the Grant Committee, Susan will contact the relevant organizations to apprise them of this situation and (hopefully) get their approval that the change in website will have on them.

As a separate matter, Chris raised the prospect that anyone interested in perusing our webpage be able to see everything, that is, we should not limit access to members only. There was no further discussion.

f. August series (Chris Padgett)

Chris reported that the sign-ups for the August series is going well, up to over 90 so far with another month to go. He also described what the August 1 program – “Open House Conversation with Board of Directors -- would entail, mainly giving the audience a sense of who we are. He asked Board members to let him know if they intend to participate.

6. Acknowledgements – none

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm EDT.

Submitted by Susan J. Court (ad hoc secretary as Terry Smith was in D.C. at DAR Meeting) on July 2, 2022.

