

Buffalo Irish Genealogical Society

Annual Board Meeting

3 December 2016

PRESENT: Edward Patton – president, Diane Blaser – vice-president, Donna Shine – treasurer, Margaret Fabinsky – secretary, James Shine – trustee

MEETING OPENED: 10:30 am President Ed Patton, presiding

ANNUAL BUDGET:

2016 budget summary and 2017 proposed budget were presented by the Treasurer. Each was accepted as written.

October was established as Budget Review Month.

FIXED ASSETS:

Inventory and valuation of current assets provided by the Treasurer – approved.

Dollar amount established for capitalized assets at \$1,000. All items valued below that figure will be expensed at the time of acquisition.

INSURANCE:

Two quotes from the Wolf Agency were presented and reviewed. There are a number of areas of coverage that may be unnecessary. Additional quotes will be solicited for consideration. The possibility of accessing insurance through the WNYLRC or a similar organization will also be explored. The advisability of Directors & Officers coverage will be considered as well. Pending a final determination, we do have coverage through the HDC

FUNDRAISING:

A mailing will be sent to the membership wishing everyone a happy holiday season and containing a reminder of the tax deductible status of BIGS donations.

A Planned Giving Program will be developed – to be ready for implementation by next year.

NEA grant money is being sought in support of our Railroad Database Project.

We will develop an approach to the O'Shei Foundation seeking financial support for equipment acquisition.

ELECTIONS:

Terms for elected officers and trustees have been established at two years. Nominations are to be made at the July meeting of every odd numbered year, beginning July 2017. Elections will take place at the subsequent meeting in October. New terms commence in January of even numbered years beginning January 2018.

2017 YEARLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Proposed schedule is as follows ---

January Organizational Meeting

Fundraisers – Holy Cross Trolley tour for members and Letter Campaign to membership with dues reminders.

April Gathering of the Clans

Educational seminars, one-to-ones, how-tos, displays

July Board nominations

Open programs or projects

October Board elections

Open or ongoing programs

The above proposal, a request for a Program Chairman and implementation of the Railway Society Policy for Sales will be discussed by and voted on by the membership at an up-coming meeting.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF BIGS:

The anniversary is in October 2017. Proposed ways to mark the occasion include a display at the HDC, a presentation by Donna Shine, sale of commemorative imprinted materials (shirts, thumb drives, etc.), a Holy Cross Cemetery tour and instructional presentations.

MANAGEMENT OF RAILROAD DATABASE:

This project has progressed to the point where a formal announcement is planned for January. We anticipate a very enthusiastic, possibly overwhelming, response. A dedicated e-mail address will be used only for railroad inquiries, along with an automated reply projecting a lengthy delay before we can provide the requested information. Additional management strategies will be devised on an 'as needed' basis.

BIGS WEBSITE:

The new website <<http://BIGSny.webs.com>> is now operational. However, not all previous links have been successfully re-established as yet. Other societies/libraries known to post links to BIGS will be notified of the change. An announcement will also be placed in the "Times".

BOOK SALE:

We have a large number of books that are either duplicates or not appropriate for inclusion in our collection. They need to be inventoried and priced. Then they can be sold on-line if a volunteer to manage this task can be identified. Specific topics may have an easily identifiable market. A local buyer of any books on 'rocks' has already been located. When the inventory is complete it will be made available to the membership and a book sale will be held in October as part of the anniversary celebration.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 12:15 pm

M.E. O'Grady-Fabinsky