

IAJGS Board of Directors Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Sunday, January 12 2014

9 a.m. PST, 12 noon EST, 5.00 p.m. GMT, 7.00 p.m. Jerusalem Time

Summary Minutes

Present:

Marlis Humphrey (President), Nolan Altman (Vice President), Paul Silverstone (Treasurer) (Items 1 to 5), Mark Nicholls (Secretary), Jackye Sullins (Director) (Items 1 to 4b), Garri Regev (Director), Daniel Horowitz (Director), Kahlile Mehr (Director), Michael Goldstein (Immediate Past President)

Guest:

Hal Bookbinder (Item 4a)

1. Minutes of last meeting December 11 2013

The minutes were approved.

2. Confirmation of electronic votes:

The Board unanimously confirmed the electronic vote to approve the Selskabet for Dansk Jødisk Historie” (The Society for Danish History) Membership application.

Old Business

3. Action list review follow up:

The Board reviewed thirteen action points, including appointments of Committee Chairs, a template for counting of conference attendees to allow better year-on-year comparisons; and the creation of a new format for presenting budget information to the Board.

4. Conference reports:

a) Salt Lake City 2014. Hal Bookbinder joined the meeting and reported that 141 abstracts and submissions for talks had been received so far, 11 of which were on WW1. There had been 28 registrations to date. Work was beginning on the program, with the Board being informed in advance of the finalized program being announced. The website was discussed. It was reported that the on-line family finder specification was being developed and the family finder would cover genetic haplogroups, towns, names and submitter details would be anonymous. The Board asked questions about updating the family finder with new names and if the text of presentations would be available for newsletters after the conference. Ancestry would be a Platinum sponsor and they would do e-mail blasts advertising the conference, along with articles in their newsletter. Family Search would also do promotional activity. The technology content of the program was discussed.

b) Orlando 2017. The Board discussed a proposal from the potential meeting planners for the Orlando conference and agreed unanimously to go back to the planners with a counter proposal.

c) Israel 2015. It was reported that the hotel inspection had been done and meeting room usage was being looked at. Meeting sessions would have to be larger than normal. Advertising material would be available at RootsTech and Who Do You Think You Are? Live! In London. A meeting would be taking place with a potential sponsor about what support they could offer for the conference. There would be a "Virtual Exhibitor Hall" as well as a physical one. It was noted that the hotel space would present a challenge.

5. Update on collection of Membership fees

It was reported that 30 members had paid to date and that the on-line form was helping with getting donations to the Stern Grant fund. The current situation with the two particular organizations needed to be taken up by the Membership Development Committee. Reminder letters would be sent out in two days' time. There were issues with the cost of PayPal and wire transfers that needed to be addressed.

6. Cemetery Project

The Board, again, considered the management and technical arrangements for the IAJGS Cemetery Project and it was agreed that the development of an improved website would be pursued.

7. Mission Statement Finalization

The Board approved unanimously that the IAJGS Mission Statement will be "To inspire, educate and advocate for those pursuing Jewish genealogical research."

8. Strategic Initiatives Next Steps

The schedule for reviewing the various strategic initiatives was set out, with reports on Benefits and Services, IT and Finance to be dealt with in February. Marketing would be dealt with in the March meeting and Partnering in May.

9. Rootstech 2014 – Update

It was agreed that, if there was a need to spend money over and above the delegated limit, the Board would be consulted.

10. Website Review

Work on a new website design needed to be finalized before RootsTech if possible. The IAJGS Webmaster would do a first review of the new design and the Jewish Genealogy Month poster design would be used for the logo.

New Business

11. Approval to appoint Quinton Atkinson as Director

The Board considered the nomination of Quinton Atkinson of Ancestry as a Board Member and it was agreed after some debate to defer the decision until the next Board meeting and to continue discussion in the interim by e-mail.

Mark Nicholls
Secretary IAJGS