

IAJGS Board of Directors Meeting

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, June 18 2014

9 a.m. PDT, 10 a.m MDT, 12 noon EDT, 5.00 p.m. GMT, 7.00 p.m. Jerusalem Time

Summary Minutes

Present:

Marlis Humphrey (President), Mark Nicholls (Secretary), Paul Silverstone (Treasurer)
Jackye Sullins (Director), Garri Regev (Director), Quinton Atkinson (Director),
Michael Goldstein (Immediate Past President)

Apologies: Nolan Altman (Vice President), Daniel Horowitz (Director)

1. Minutes of last meeting May 21, 2014

The minutes of May 21, 2014 meeting were approved.

2. Confirmation of electronic vote:

Electronic Vote to Approve the YU Family Discovery Society Application to Join IAJGS was confirmed unanimously.

3. Conference updates

Salt Lake City 2014 – It was reported that that there were over 400 full registrations for the conference and 6 dailies and 107 Live! registrations. A video promoting Live! had been put up on You Tube and IAJGS members could apply for a discount code for their members to 10% off the cost of Live! The link to the video had been sent to JGS Presidents and was on the IAJGS website and Facebook Page. Ancestry was doing a large mailing and postings on their Blog and Twitter feed. Family Search was promoting the conference, including at a local level. Progress was being made with the conference apps and the contract had been signed. It was suggested that there should be an emphasis on the benefits of going to Salt Lake City with the LDS Family History Library being there. Efforts were being made to promote the Library, based on the fact that 90 per cent of its material was not on-line. A further webinar about the Library was being organized. The JewishGen main mailing list should be used as soon as possible to promote the conference.

Jerusalem 2015 – It was reported that registration for the 2015 conference would be open at the Salt Lake City conference. An e-mail ‘blast’ would be done to Salt Lake City and Boston conference attendees and via JewishGen. Family Search had not yet confirmed what they would do about Live! for the conference. There was a commitment from MyHeritage to make a substantial donation. There would be other sponsors and donations, with other organizations and individuals being reached out to. There would be a reduced rate for under-30s. A virtual exhibition and an actual exhibition would be organized. The Board discussed the details of the financing and sponsorship arrangements.

Orlando 2017 - The Board considered the draft contract with the Swan Resort Hotel; looking at issues such as internet costs, event set up costs, AV costs and bringing in food from external providers. The Board voted unanimously to approve the contract with the Walt Disney World Swan Hotel.

Seattle 2016 – The President asked if the Board was content to revisit to Seattle contract in light of the agreement with Orlando. The Orlando hotel and the Seattle one were part of the same group, so it might be possible to get some of the better elements in the Orlando contract incorporated in the Seattle one. It was agreed to deal with the issue in e-mail correspondence. The search for Co-Chairs for Seattle was discussed further, including the key attributes and experience required of the person.

4. Strategic Initiative Plan – Benefits & Services

Proposals were presented for the delivery of benefits and services to members based on the outcome of the 2013 survey of membership needs. It was suggested that the delivery of “Conference in a Box” idea would be a big challenge for member organizations. All of the starting a JGS material should be in a My Box folder or in a website members’ area. One thing that would need consent from the Board would be the bank of lectures from IAJGS conferences, as the presenters should be paid for use of their lectures, possibly US\$100.00 each. It was suggested that the material that the Membership Development Committee had produced should be added to the starting a JGS material. There was a debate about what the purpose of a Newsletter would be and in particular what the audience would be for it and defining what issue or issues it would address. It was agreed to further review and comment on the proposals by e-mail.

It was suggested that the membership be asked about the topics they would like to first in management webinars. The webinars could be held on the second Sunday of every month with topics prioritized according what the membership wanted. It was suggested that topics relevant to different age groups needed to be identified. It was felt that the personalization of research worked for younger people.

5. Future use of Funds

The Treasurer reported that the ad hoc Committee had analysed the money available to IAJGS and looked at the money that had been advanced already. The Committee had considered the Conference; General; and Grants Funds. It was noted that the analysis showed that there was little spare money available due to the number of actual and potential commitments on all funds. It was agreed that there should be a formal report of the Committee’s findings at the Annual Meeting.

6. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting would be on Sunday July 13, 2014 at 9 a.m. PDT, 10 a.m MDT, 12 noon EDT, 5.00 p.m. GMT, 7.00 p.m. Jerusalem Time.

Mark Nicholls
Secretary IAJGS