

Board Meeting of the Illinois State Historical Society and Advisory Board
April 9, 2022
Hoogland Center or the Arts, Springfield, IL

AGENDA

Call to order, 1:15 pm.

1. President's Welcome, introductions
2. Approval of the minutes
3. Officer reports
4. Staff reports
5. Committee reports
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Announcements
9. Set date for next meeting
10. Adjournment

Attending:

Officers: Dan Monroe, President; John Hallwas, Vice President.

Absent: William Shannon IV, Secretary; Ty Rohrer, Treasurer

Directors: Mark Flotow, Chuck Stanley, Jenny Barker-Devine

Advisors: Kristin H. McKinsey, Sherry Williams, Chet Wold,

Guests: Elaine Egdorf, Charlotte Renahan, Marilyn Leyland, Don Truax

Staff: William Furry, Executive Director; Mary Lou Johnsrud, Office Manager; Ana Hopkins, Administrative Assistant

President Monroe called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m., and noting that the meeting did have quorum, elected to have a discussion instead. He noted that the technology available to us at Hoogland did not allow us to have a Zoom meeting with the rest of the board, which meant that several people who had planned to attend a virtual boarding meeting were locked out. He said that a meeting this summer will be held via Zoom, which would allow full participation by the Board and advisors. That date will be announced later this spring or early summer. President Monroe asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2022, meeting of the ISHS Board of Directors. Minutes approved, though absence of quorum may require another vote at next meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Hallwas made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mr. Flotow seconded. Minutes approved with changes or corrections.

Officer reports.

Vice President Hallwas said that at the last board meeting he solicited help from Jenny Barker-Devine and William Shannon IV to canvas other state historical societies in the Midwest to explore new ideas for building membership. He said he hoped to have a report at the next board meeting to share results from that survey.

Staff reports.

Executive Director Furry said that although the staff had planned to present the Annual Awards ceremony over Zoom, the Hoogland building was not conducive to virtual transmissions. That fact prevented several board and advisory members from joining us this afternoon for the board meeting. He said the Society was co-sponsoring a cemetery restoration workshop with the Madison and St. Clair county historical societies on May 20-21. He said that a donor couple from New Lenox, Illinois, Darrell and Suzanne Holmquist, had been in touch with the Society to offer a scholarship opportunity to a Social Studies/history student teacher. The couple had originally offered the scholarship to MacMurray College, which closed its doors after 147 years in 2020. Mr. Furry said that he worked with the couple to sponsor new ISHS memberships to Illinois students pursuing teaching certification in social studies or history. The result was 18 new members in the Society. He said that Holmquists will continue to sponsor the gift in subsequent years, offering opportunities for new teachers to become members of the Society.

Committee reports.

Historical Markers.

Mr. Stanley's report outlined new marker initiatives in Troy Grove (Prudence Crandall), Lombard (Sheldon Peck Homestead), Ottawa (Jim Gray's Escape), Saunemin (Jenny Hodgers/Albert Cashiers). All of the above markers will receive funding from the Pomeroy Foundation. Mr. Furry added two others to this list—the Nance Legins-Costley marker and the Moffatt Cemetery marker, both in Peoria. He said all markers should be dedicated before the 5th of August. Two other markers are expected to be unveiled before the end of summer, including the Freedom Seekers Tan Farm marker in south Chicago (also a Pomeroy marker), and the Camp Shiloh marker, to be dedicated at the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site in Charleston. Other markers in the works are the Minnie Vautrin marker in Secor and markers in Carbondale and Murphysboro.

President Monroe thanked the staff for an excellent event and the board for making time for the annual meeting and awards ceremony. He said an announcement would be made soon about a date for the next board meeting, which would be sometime this summer.

Old Business. There was no old business to discuss.

New Business. There was no new business brought before the board.

President Monroe asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

William Furry
Executive Director