



# Indiana Genealogical Society

## Board Meeting Minutes

November 02, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Allen County Public Library  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

### Call to Order

At 10:00am on Saturday, November 02, 2019, Rhonda Stoffer, IGS President, called the IGS Board Meeting to order at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

### Attendance

Attendance in person: Donna Adams, Sue Caldwell, Kaye Ford, Marlene Polster, Allison Singleton, Rhonda Stoffer, Curt Sylvester, and Curt Witcher.

Attendance via Telephone: Diana Brumfield, Lou Ann Clugh, Susan Heider, Michael Maben, and Rachel Popma.

Excused Absence: Ron Darrah and Randi Richardson

### Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Marlene Polster moved and Allison Singleton seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

### Minutes of the Last Board Meetings

MOTION: Sue Caldwell moved and Marlene Polster seconded that the Minutes of the August 10, 2019 Board Meeting be approved. The motion passed.

### Financial Report

MOTION: Marlene Polster moved and Sue Caldwell seconded the approval of the financial reports. The Motion passed.

### 2020 Budget

MOTION: Curt Sylvester moved and Kaye Ford seconded that the 2020 Budget be approved as revised and may be future revised with future decisions of the Board. The Motion passed.

### Confirmation of the Next Meeting Date

25 January 2020                      Plainfield

### Confirmation of Next Five Meeting Dates

18 April 2020 Conference      Terre Haute

02 May 2020                          Plainfield

08 August 2020                      Plainfield

24 October 2020                      Fort Wayne

23 January 2021                      Plainfield

### Approval of Executive Committee Action

The following action of the Executive Committee was approved:

- Request to dispose of old IGS products

### **East Central District Appointment**

President Rhonda Stoffer announced that Cora Sue Hatton had resigned and that Kaye Ford had been appointed the new Director of the IGS East Central District. Kaye Ford was in attendance.

### **Membership Committee**

Allison Singleton requested a person to serve as her backup for processing new memberships. Kaye Ford volunteered to serve with Allison on this task.

### **ICG Appointments**

Marlene Polster announced the following new appointment as Indiana County Genealogists:

- Karin Rettinger Marshall County

### **Election of Northern Tier Directors**

President Rhonda Stoffer asked for a volunteer to serve as the chair of the Nominating Committee for the three director positions to be elected at our next State Conference. Marlene Polster volunteered to serve in this position.

### **Indiana Room Dedication at Huntington**

President Rhonda Stoffer shared that the remodeled Indiana Room at the Huntington City-Township Public Library was being dedicated at 10:30am today and that Curt Witcher would be in attendance. They will also be honoring Joan Keefer for her lifetime work for the library.

### **Concord Cemetery Dedication in Whitley County**

President Rhonda Stoffer announced that the restoration work at the Concord Cemetery in Whitley County will be dedicated November 10. This restoration work was a recipient of an IGS grant.

### **Digitization Project**

President Rhonda Stoffer announced that Ron Darrah had resigned as chair of the Digitization Project and would continue to upload all acquired data and train his successor. The Board expressed their great appreciation for all the work that Ron has provided for this project.

MOTION: Lou Ann Clugh moved and Allison Singleton seconded that the Digitization Project be ceased regarding the providing of the Digitization Kits, but that IGS continue to receive and upload data from those organizations that had received kits. The motion passed.

### **Hendricks County Probate Records Project**

Ron Darrah reported via email that the project would be completed in early 2020.

### **Indy International Festival**

It was reported that IGS will have a booth at the 2019 Indy International Festival to be held at the Indiana State Fair Grounds November 7-9, 2019. Ron Darrah, Rhonda Stoffer, and Curt Sylvester have signed up for working. Others are needed. Please contact Ron Darrah to volunteer.

### **GoToMeeting**

There was a discussion of what service would be best for facilitating Board members to attend meetings electronically. Research will continue for the best service to include audio and video conferencing, possibilities for providing webinars, and storage. A new microphone/speaker has been purchased which greatly enhanced the participation of those attending via telephone.

### **2020 Annual Conference**

Michael Maben reported that the 2020 Annual Conference will be held April 18, 2020 at the newly remodeled Vigo County Historical Museum.

## **2021 Annual Conference**

MOTION: Michael Maben moved and Donna Adams seconded that the 2021 Annual Conference be held at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The motion passed

## **Future Annual Conferences**

There was discussion about the location for future Annual Conferences. There was discussion about alternating between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne. The possibility of using the auditorium at the History Center in Indianapolis was discussed. All was referred for future discussion.

## **Indiana County Genealogists**

Marlene Polster reported that we now have fifty-eight persons serving as ICG's.

## **Chapter Committee**

Sue Caldwell reported that there were presently eleven chapters and a possibility of a new one joining soon.

MOTION: Sue Caldwell moved and Marlene Polster seconded that a requirement be added to the chapter grant application that the names of at least ten chapter members who are also IGS members be included on the grant application. Also, that at the beginning of each year, a form be sent to each member chapter requesting the names of at least ten of their chapter members who are also IGS members. The motion passed.

## **Website Update**

President Rhonda Stoffer reported that she had appointed a Website Committee consisting of herself, Amy Johnson Crow, and Sheila Kell. They have been working with the new Webmaster to find ways to improve the website. It is known that the present program can not handle the data that IGS wishes to make available. One site proposed as being something that IGS might wish to copy is for the Filson Historical Society.

It was also reported that IGS has over 2,300 data bases in various forms. These needed to be evaluated as to the format of each data base and how it can be added to the new website. President Stoffer asked for volunteers to do this evaluation. Susan Heider and Kaye Ford volunteered. Others are needed.

It was also requested that the ancestral data be added to the website from the submissions for Territorial Guard and Civil War Society.

## **Publication Report**

Rachel Popma reported that she and Allison Singleton and Jen Alford had reviewed all the publications and social media of IGS. A printed report had been emailed to all Board members. After much discussion, it was decided that IGS publications might be as follows:

- IGS QUARTERLY

- Become more of a magazine rather than a scholarly journal. Receive submissions from IGS Directors, ICG's, and IGS members. A "member only" publication to be distributed digitally.

- IGS NEWSLETTER

- Be in a "members only" publication in e-news format with short easy-to-read articles with links to longer articles

- INDIANA NEWS

- To be a publication emailed to any person who requests. There are now over 2,000 persons who receive this publication. It has about a 50% open rate.

MOTION: Allison Singleton moved and Kaye Ford seconded that two contracted positions be added to the 2020 IGS Budget as follows:

- E-News Letter Editor for \$1,200 annually
- Social Media Editor for \$1,200 annually

The motion passed.

### **Review of Bylaws and Standing Rules**

Curt Sylvester presented the Bylaw revision and cover letter for the “Second Reading”. This had been reviewed and revised at the last Board meetings and had been emailed to all Board members. If approved, the Bylaw revision and cover letter will be sent via Constant Contact to all IGS members for vote. The result of the vote will be announced at the April 18, 2020 Annual Meeting.

MOTION: Allison Singleton moved and Marlene Polster seconded that the Bylaw Revision and cover letter be approved as presented. The motion passed.

The Standing Rules were then presented for the “First Reading”. This twenty-four-page document had also been emailed to all Board members for review. The “Second Reading” will be on the agenda for the next Board meeting on January 25, 2020.

### **Adjournment**

At 3:47pm, Marlene Polster moved and Allison Singleton seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed.

Curt Sylvester  
IGS Secretary