

GFGS General Meeting December 17, 2020

(All members attended the meeting via ZOOM due to restrictions in response to the corona virus.)

President Larry Spicer called the meeting to order. Minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Jan Thomson moved to accept the minutes with corrections. Linda Long seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed (See Attached) Jan Thomson moved to accept the minutes as presented. Ann Dues seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

Membership

Ann Dues reported the following membership numbers for those who have paid for 2021. Lifetime members – 5 single & 4 joint; Annual members – 71 single & 16 joint. This brings the total to 96 memberships with 116 individuals. There was one new joint lifetime membership added this past month.

Acquisitions Committee

Larry Spicer presented the Acquisitions Report. (See attached). There were 2 books were recommended for purchase. Jan Thomson moved to accept the report with the inclusion of the recommended purchases, with Gary Campbell seconding. The motion was unanimously approved.

Publication / Publicity

Zoom Member Assist meetings began WEDNESDAYS AT 11 AM began on December 2, 2020, with GFGS member Jan Thomson as moderator. Eleven members attended yesterday's zoom meeting. The rest of the Wednesday session will be dedicated to participant needs from our GFGS Library and Subscriptions. Jan will take your needs down (preferably by email: jannyt2162@bresnan.net).

There is a possibility that the visitors center on flag hill may re-open. If so we will approach them about putting our Society information there.

Research

Jan continues to do research from home for members. There was no income.

Projects

1. Our O'Connor Funeral Records Project is temporarily on hold until it is safe to go get the original files for 1936-1938. We are all caught up with the previous records—1911-1935 records have been scanned and indexed and are available at the GFGS Library.
2. Jan Thomson is doing a final check on her 1885-1906 data base of deaths in Cascade County; soon it will be available at our GFGS Page online. Same with files for 1898, 1899, and 1911 Great Falls District #1 School Census—they are being reviewed and will be posted online at our site. These school censuses are available, individually by year (paper copy) in our GFGS Library—check the County/City Directories area.
3. The "Big Sandy" book has been indexed and will be placed online.
4. Other Projects are still on hold until those members working on them can come into the GFGS Library to complete their work.

5. The archive boxes for the County records arrived and have been filled.

Tech Committee

We have received a quote from Past Perfect Conversions to transfer the data from our Library Master List into our Past Perfect software. The quote was for \$320, and Linda reported approximately \$1800 remaining in the designated Past Perfect Fund.

The next steps will be to add the Cascade County Records that we have to the Past Perfect Archive Collection. Ann thought she would be able to enter those records as they become available from Jan and Gary Goettel's work. We also can add video and photos to the system.

Old Business:

1. Re-opening of our Library – With an abundance of caution and as the COVID-19 cases continue to increase, we will remain closed until further notice. Jan Thomson's Wednesday Zoom "help" meeting, we will strive to give members support in their ancestry quest.

If you have any suggestions for future speakers, please contact Jan Thomson. Ken Roberson will be our speaker next month about his latest book – "Historic Tales of Whoop-Up Country: On the Trail from Montana's Fort Benton to Canada's Fort Macleod".

- 2.

New Business:

- 1.) We have renewed our advertisement of our society in "Montana's Cultural Treasures" for 2021.
- 2.) Larry had a new address stamp made that added "Library" to our title. This will give us reduced mailing rates.
- 3.) Welcome to Diane Kirol – our new Board Member who will be taking over for Jerry Clark. Thank you, Jerry Clark, for your service, your good humor and dedication to our society.
- 4.) Jan Thomson moved that we give the Public Library Custodian – Bob the same Christmas gift as last year. Cande Recke seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.
- 5.) Cande Recke introduced and read the "pledge" for the instillation of officers of the Great Falls Genealogy Society, for the coming year. They are: President – Larry Spicer; Vice President – Jan Thomson; Secretary – Ann Dues; Treasurer – Cheryl Lucas; 3-Year Trustee – Diane Kirol.

There being no further business the GFGS General Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,

Ann Dues Secretary