

## **GFGS General Meeting January 14, 2021**

A wonderful presentation from Ken Robison on his latest Book: “Historic Tales of Whoop-Up Country: On the Trail from Montana’s Fort Benton to Canada’s Fort MacLeod” preceded the Business Meeting.

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

### **Treasurer’s Report:**

Cheryl Lucas reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. (See Attached) Cheryl noted that our income from “walk-ins” was down, but so was the expense. Larry Spicer read the Board Member’s annual audit report. (See Attached). Cheryl Lucas was praised for her exemplary work as the treasurer for our Society. Jan Thomson moved to accept the monthly report as well as the audit report. Gary Goettel seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **Membership**

Ann reported the following membership numbers for those who have paid for 2021. Lifetime members – 5 single & 4 joint; Annual members – 88 single & 25 joint. This brings the total to 122 memberships with 151 individuals.

### **Acquisitions Committee**

Larry presented the Acquisitions Report. (See attached). There was 1 book recommended for purchase. This is a book on Texas and will be paid by a gift card specifically designated for books about Texas. Jan Thomson moved to accept the report with the inclusion of the recommended purchases, with Ann Dues seconding. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **Publication / Publicity**

**Zoom Member Assist meetings** continue, with GFGS member Jan Thomson as moderator. Mary Pitch from Helena attended the last meeting and inquired if she could extend the invitation to the Helena Genealogy membership. The board has agreed that this was a great idea and sharing with other Montana Genealogy Societies will be pursued.

### **Research**

Jan is using the Wednesday Zoom secessions with members to help them with research. 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. Carol Byerly continues to find

death certificates for these records. The index of these Funeral records will be available on our Web site as well.

2. Jan Thomson is compiling death notices for Great Falls and Cascade County from 1885-1906. There are no death certificates for this time.
3. Jan Thomson has completed the indexing for the Big Sandy History Book and the index is on our Web Site. She has also shared this date with the Big Sandy folks.

### **Tech Committee**

The Library File has been downloaded to our Past Perfect Software. Jan Thomson and Ann Dues have resolved several duplicate records identified by Past Perfect. Establishing and recording the location of the books will be the next project.

The Tech Committee will be meeting this coming Saturday to discuss a number of items and will report back at the next General Meeting.

### **Old Business:**

1. Re-opening of our Library – We will remain closed until further notice. Until volunteers can receive a Vaccine it was felt that we must remain closed

### **New Business:**

- 1.) Renewal of Montana's Cultural Treasures: Larry spoke with the representative about wording about our hours of operation that will appear in the publication. She suggested that we state, "Call or check our Web site for opening times."
- 2.) Larry asked about changing our "Volunteer of the Year" plaque. He will check with the engravers on the cost and will report at next month's board meeting.
- 3.) There will be no Wednesday Zoom education / research help meeting this coming Wednesday (Jan 20) due to the Presidential Inauguration.

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

Respectfully, Ann Dues Secretary