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New Boston, Pa - August 2018



JUL 26 2004

MAHANOY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1-7 West Centre Street P.O. Box 127
Mahanoy City, PA 17948 570-773-1295
<http://home.ptd.net/~nyutko/mahs/mahs/htm>

The Mahanoy Area Historical Society met Monday, July 26, 2004 in the first-floor meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. In attendance were Ray Eichman, Frank Selgrath, Patricia Brown, Rose Flamini, George Krall, Peg Grigalonis, Charlotte E. Maurey, Francis Senglar, Joan Goodman, Joseph Flamini, and Albert Silveri.

President Frank Selgrath opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a brief prayer by Ray Eichman.

MINUTES

Minutes of the June 28th meeting were accepted as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report given by Peg Grigalonis showed an opening balance of \$6,590.39 as of June 1, 2004. There were no receipts. Expenditures, which included \$80 for a metal sign denoting Mahanoy Area Historical Society, telephone installation and payment of \$125.35 for April to June, and \$250 for insurance, totaled \$455.35 bringing the ending balance to \$6,135.04 as of June 30. The report was accepted on a motion by George Krall, seconded by Charlotte Maurey.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was read from Teresa S. McCord indicating she was resigning from her office of vice president immediately. She said she would continue as a member. The resignation was accepted on a motion by Grigalonis, seconded by Krall. Selgrath said the by-laws of the society state that the executive committee would fill any vacancy and Francis C. Senglar was appointed to fill McCord's unexpired term.

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Another letter was read from the National Pen Corporation offering to have souvenir pens printed with the society's logo. A motion was made by Rose Flamini to purchase 100 pens for 97 cents each with 100 pens being received at no cost. The motion was seconded by Eichman and passed with no objection.

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Selgrath said the recent newsletter received many favorable comments. Any news for the next letter should be in to Lorrie Ogden by September 15.

Selgrath commended those who worked at the society's table during the Community Day celebration.

Membership Committee

Reporting for the membership committee, Eichman said the society has five new members - Lois Griffiths, Helen Harlor, Attorney Robert Bohorad, Nancy Herring, and Lois Morgan. He said anyone who joins now will be a member until the end of 2005.

Book Advisory Committee

Eichman said the book was completed and will be forwarded to the publisher the following day. He said correspondence received from Arcadia Publishing indicated the book would sell for \$19.95 and there was a sliding scale for the number of books purchased by the society prior to publication. There would be a 40% discount if one to 79 books were ordered, 42% for 80 to 99 books, 44% for 200 to 299, a 46% discount for 300 to 399 and a 50% discount if 400 or more books were ordered. It is hoped the book will be received prior to Christmas.

Selgrath said the book committee would review publicity, ordering, and record keeping details pertaining to the book. Any books ordered through the society must be prepaid. Books will be available in local stores, bookstores at the mall, and through the Internet.

It was suggested by Joan Goodman that an order form be placed in the next newsletter to be sent to members. Joe Flamini suggested having a presentation night when a speaker such as Dr. Jack Kubert could be present to draw a crowd to kick off the sale of the book. The book committee will review these suggestions and report at the August meeting.

Artifacts

Rose Flamini reported acquisitions have reached 235 and she had several more to register.

Community Preservation

Joan Goodman commented on the renovation work being done on the property at Spruce and Maple streets and said Mr. King should be sent a letter noting how good the property looks.

Goodman said she should have a price for the plaques to be installed at various locations in the community at the next meeting, and said the design for the plaques should be coordinated with those that would be erected denoting Molly Maguire significance. Peg Grigalonis said they should also coordinate with the River Heritage Society.

Program and Speakers

Selgrath said Odgen might have to switch speakers for the next meeting, as the program on antique cars may not work out as planned.

Special Events

Selgrath also said that the annual garden tour would not be held this year.

Rose Flamini said she spoke with Kathy Wufsus, who is in California, concerning the Christmas tour and Kathy would like to do something relating to the German community as St. Fidelis Church would be 140 years old this year. Selgrath said Eichman could prepare a history of the German parish and that Goodman would like the Kaier Mansion included in the plans. Goodman said she is planning to have a new roof put on the mansion but did not know when work would begin.

Grigalonis said a date for the celebration has to be included in the Visitor's Bureau Calendar pertaining to Christmas celebrations and that the information was required by July 30. She questioned whether the society would like to join the borough in its Christmas celebration to be held the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Rose Flamini said she did not think the local churches would be decorated at that time. It was decided to hold the Christmas program on Saturday, December 11, with details to be finalized at a later date.

By-Laws Committee

Selgrath said revisions for the by-laws should begin at the September meeting as it may take three months to review any changes. One of the items that may be changed is membership to allow for a lifetime member.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

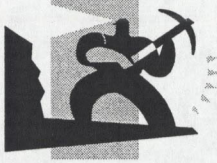
Selgrath commented on the room the meeting was held in and said the society would inquire whether it could continue to use the room for future meetings.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. on a motion by Krall, seconded by Charlotte Maurey. The next meeting scheduled for August 30th.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia P. Brown, Secretary



MAHANOY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1-7 West Centre Street P.O. Box 127
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mahsr@mahanoyvisitorscenter.com

The Mahanoy Area Historical Society met Monday, August 30, 2004 in the first-floor meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. In attendance were Ray Eichman, Frank Selgrath, Patricia Brown, Peg Grigalonis, Francis Senglar, Rose Flamini, Francis Burke, Joseph Flamini, Dolly Wagner, George Krall, Ramon Soto, Margaret Smith, Elizabeth Frye, John Mizzer, Lois Griffiths, Phyllis Latta, Charlotte Maurey, Leslie Richardson, Mike Yanavich, Lorrie Ogden, Kathy Wufsus, Ginny Minalda, John Minalda, Nat Lucas, Johanna Kegolis, JoAnn Filiziani, Sandy Peel, Nancy Herring, Marie Bache, and Rosalie Gorman.

President Frank Selgrath opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a brief prayer by Ray Eichman.

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 26th meeting were accepted as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report given by Peg Grigalonis showed an opening balance of \$6,135.04 as of July 1, 2004. Receipts totaled \$362, which included \$95 in dues, \$142 from the Community Day sales, a \$100 donation, and a \$25 miscellaneous reimbursement. Expenditures of \$36.87 included the monthly telephone charge of \$26.87 and a \$10 fee for Community Day. The ending balance as of July 31, was \$6,460.17. The report was accepted on a motion by Charlotte Maurey, seconded by Rose Flamini.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Pat Brown said a letter was sent to Teresa S. McCord informing her that her resignation as vice president had been accepted, and to Attorney Robert N. Bohorad thanking him for a \$100 donation. A letter was also sent to Monsignor Anthony Wassel asking him to put a notice in the church bulletin that a program on Lithuanian history would be presented at the August meeting.

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COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Selgrath said a few items were discussed at the executive meeting that would be discussed at the general meeting.

Book Advisory Committee

The history book being compiled by the society had undergone last minute editing and was now at the printer. Eichman said the books should be available in November. Eichman questioned how many books the society wanted to order and what the selling price would be. Eichman said the book committee recommended purchasing of 300 copies and made a motion to that effect. The motion was seconded by George Krall and passed with no dissent.

Eichman said he would like to propose a special type of membership for 2005 only. He suggested a \$25 membership fee that would include a year's dues and a copy of the history book for both new members and those renewing their membership. A discussion was held on the suggested fee with some members indicating it was too low. A motion was made by Lorrie Ogden, seconded by Ramon Soto and unanimously passed that the special dues donation will be \$30 for 2005.

An article will be placed in the coming newsletter encouraging members to prepay their dues early so as not to deplete the society treasury.

Selgrath said some members had already prepaid their 2005 dues in advance and asked how their situation would be handled. It was agreed that if they paid the \$30, they would have their dues extended until the end of 2006.

Arcadia Printing will place the books in regional bookstores and other local stores. They will also be available at the Kaier Mansion. Books purchased at these locations will cost \$19.99 and be subject to sales tax. Joseph Flamini questioned whether additional books could be ordered. Selgrath said the committee was negotiating with the publishing company. Eichman said the order could be upped to 400 books. Flamini said it would be a good idea to contact individuals involved with the Mahanoy City and Mahanoy Township reunions informing them of the coming sale of the Mahanoy Area historical book.

Artifacts

Rose Flamini reported acquisitions have reached 292 so far this year and with the 700 received last year, the number of donations has reached 992. Selgrath said the society had received three glass cases from the former Guinan Department Store and they were being cleaned and repaired and would be used to display the artifacts.

Program and Speakers

Ogden said Jerry Enders will speak on antique and classic cars at the October meeting and his presentation could be expanded to include other collectibles. It was suggested that a videotape of "The Breaker Boys" could be shown at the November meeting to kick off the sale of the history books.

Special Events

Kathy Wufsus, chairman of the special events committee, said after last year's highly successful Christmas program at the First Presbyterian Church, it was planned to have this year's program in St. Fidelis Church, which is commemorating its 140th anniversary this year. She said she anticipates this year's program will follow the pattern of the 2003 program and will include a church service, history and luncheon to be held December 11.

By-Laws Committee

Selgrath said the current by-laws as well as suggested revisions are available in the museum room and he welcomes suggestions. The revisions will be available until November when a vote will be taken to accept the revised by-laws. He said the current revisions are suggestions that have been made during the past two years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The newsletter will be mailed out by September 24th. Selgrath asked members to get their articles to Ogden by September 15.

Eichman said a program on Centralia would be presented Tuesday evening on the History Channel.

Eichman said he had been approached by the Mahanoy City Girls Softball League to see if the historical society was interested in erecting a sign at the ball field for \$75 with a \$25 annual maintenance fee. A motion was made by Soto, seconded by Dolly Wagner to have the sign erected. Grigalonis questioned whether the society's funds were being used properly and Ogden asked if donations such as this were fulfilling the society's mission. No vote was taken. Selgrath stated the executive committee would review the matter and report at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

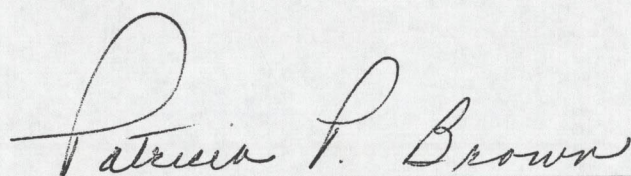
There was no new business to discuss.

ADJOURN

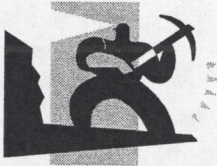
The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. on a motion by Grigalonis seconded by Ogden. The next meeting scheduled for September 27, 2004.

Following the meeting, a program on Lithuanian heritage was presented by Bernice Mikatavage of Minersville. The trials of the Lithuanian people under Russian suppression, their out-migration beginning in the 1860s, and their arrival in the anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania were discussed. She showed various items and documents pertaining to the Lithuanian people. Mrs. Mikatavage said according to the 2000 census, four percent of Mahanoy City's population is of Lithuanian descent and 25.8 percent of New Philadelphia's population were Lithuanian. She presented a "yushka" to Selgrath, which is a woven welcome sash. Comments from those attending the meeting indicated her program was well received.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia P. Brown, Secretary



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The Mahanoy Area Historical Society met Monday, September 27, 2004 in the second-floor meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. In attendance were Ray Eichman, Frank Selgrath, Patricia Brown, Francis Senglar, Francis Burke, Dolly Wagner, Lois Griffiths, Charlotte Maurey, Lorrie Ogden, Elizabeth Coombe, and Betty Williams.

President Frank Selgrath opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a brief prayer by Ray Eichman.

MINUTES

Minutes of the August 30th meeting were accepted as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Treasurer Peg Grigalonis, the treasurer's report given by Elizabeth Coombe showed an opening balance of \$6,460.17 as of August 1, 2004. There were no receipts. Expenditures were \$148.74 to Neon Central for the "open" sign, \$27.31 to Verizon for monthly telephone service, and \$113.27 to the National Pen Company for pens with the society's logo imprinted on them. The ending balance as of August 31, 2004 was \$6,170.85. The report was accepted on a motion by Lorrie Ogden, seconded by Charlotte Maurey.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Pat Brown said a letter was received from Jennifer Bowen-Frantz of the Schuylkill County Association of Historical Societies along with a proof of a brochure listing all historical societies in the county. Ms. Bowen-Frantz asked that any corrections be sent to her by September 30. Ray Eichman will respond with the correct address and Post Office box number.

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Selgrath said the executive committee discussed the town-wide yard sale held the previous Saturday. He commended Rose Flamini and Rose Kern for their efforts in making the event so successful. Selgrath said Joseph "Swing" Flamini paid the \$10 fee for the society's table.

The proposed revisions for the society's by-laws are on a table in the museum room. Selgrath asked members to review them, sign their name in the nearby notebook, and write down any suggestions they may have. The changes will be incorporated into the by-laws and presented to the membership at the November meeting.

Selgrath said the society is trying to get another tall bookcase for the museum room.

The next newsletter will be mailed early in December. Selgrath asked anyone wishing to have something included in the newsletter to have it e-mailed to Ogden by November 24. Information on the group's Christmas program will be included in the newsletter. Plans are progressing for program entitled "A German Christmas."

Book Advisory Committee

Eichman said 17 advance orders have been received for the historic pictorial book of the Mahanoy Area. He said several people took order blanks at the yard sale, and he believes there will be more than 200 pre-orders for the book.

Eichman said last month a motion was made to charge \$30 for the book and annual 2005 membership. A subsequent meeting by the book advisory committee members indicated the book should sell for \$25 instead of \$30. Odgen, who made the initial motion to sell the book for \$30, said she would like to rescind her motion and make a new motion that the cost of the book be \$25. The motion was seconded by Eichman and unanimously passed on a voice vote.

Artifacts

Reporting for the Artifacts Committee, Eichman said there had been 345 acquisitions so far this year.

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Eichman said there were 87 paid tables at Saturday's yard sale. The society took in \$50 for the sale of T-shirts and hats and received \$14 in donations.

Program and Speakers

Jerry Enders of JE Car Museum, Pottsville, will be the speaker on classic cars and collectables at October meeting.

Special Events

Reporting for the Special Events Committee, Eichman said he spoke with the Rev. William Glosser, who agreed to hold a Christmas program at St. Fidelis Church, which is commemorating its 140th anniversary this year. The program will be held December 11. Following the church service, plans call for a German dinner to be held at the Brookside Inn in Park Place. Eichman said he asked the color guard from the Good American Hose Company to stand outside the church and they agreed. Committee Chairman Kathy Wufsus is also looking at other suggestions.

Special Committees

Selgrath said an auditing committee will be appointed next month to prepare next year's budget.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Eichman said last month he spoke of being approached by the Mahanoy City Girls Softball League to see if the historical society was interested in erecting a sign at the ball field for \$75 with a \$25 annual maintenance fee. He said the actual cost of the sign was \$75, but the annual maintenance fee was \$50 a year – not \$25. A motion was made by Eichman, seconded by Charlotte Maurey and unanimously passed to get the 4 x 8 foot sign with the society's logo installed at the field and pay the annual \$50 maintenance fee.

NEW BUSINESS

Selgrath said he would like to make a motion to have Elizabeth Coombe named financial secretary of the organization. He said the financial secretary position was included in the revision of the by-laws, but the book committee said they could use the services of a financial secretary at this time. The motion was seconded by Dolly Wagner and unanimously approved.

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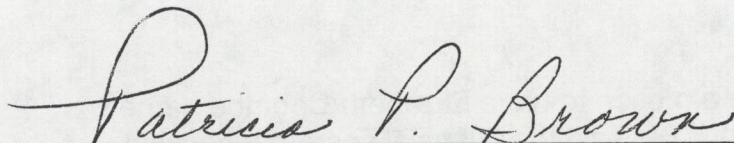
Lois Griffith, a trustee of the Mary D. Comerford Estate, presented the society with a \$200 check from the estate, as a contribution toward the work of the society. Miss Comerford was a former Mahanoy City resident who taught school in Philadelphia for a number of years and came back to the borough after her retirement and set up a charitable trust.

It was noted that Mike and Carrie Kline, professionally trained folklorists who have worked throughout the United States, would be visiting the museum room the following day as part of the Schuylkill County Ethnic Heritage Study. The study is designed to document numerous manifestations and celebrations of the various ethnic cultures in Mahanoy City as well as the rest of the county. Following this data gathering, the Klines will provide a series of recommendations on how ethnic heritage programs can be supported. Treasurer Peg Grigalonis was meeting with the Klines this evening.

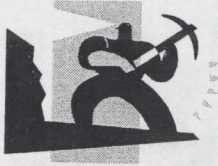
ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on a motion by Lorrie Ogden, seconded by Francis Senglar. The next meeting scheduled for Monday, October 25th.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia P. Brown, Secretary



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President Frank Selgrath opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a brief prayer by Ray Eichman.

MINUTES

Minutes of the September 27th meeting were accepted as printed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report showed an opening balance of \$6,170.85 as of September 1, 2004. A total of \$220 was received from dues and \$60 from the proceeds of the yard sale. Expenditures were \$27.75 for the monthly telephone service fee, \$74 for postage and \$18.89 for plastic sleeves to store pictures, leaving an ending balance of \$6,330.21 as of September 30, 2004. The report was accepted as printed and placed on file.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Pat Brown said an e-mail was received from Lorrie Ogden alerting the society to the "Save Our History" grants being dispensed by The History Channel. Grants of up to \$10,000 will be awarded to historic-preservation groups throughout the nation that are interested in instilling national and community heritage among America's youth. Selgrath said he would look into the grant application.

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Brown also said a sympathy card was sent to Rose Flamini on the death of her brother and to Joseph "Swing" Flamini thanking him for paying the \$10 fee for the historical society to participate in the town-wide yard sale.

COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Selgrath said proposed revisions to the by-laws have been displayed in the museum room for the past two months and a few copies were available for members to examine. A vote on revising the by-laws will be taken at the November meeting.

Selgrath said the executive committee discussed the possibility of moving the deadline for submitting articles to Lorrie Ogden for the newsletter to November 24. He said a wine and cheese reception would be held Friday, November 19, at the Kaier Mansion for a sneak preview of the "Images of America - Mahanoy Area." Members of the book committee will be available for interview and discussion.

From 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday, November 27, there will be a public reception and book launch at the local Elks Lodge where a light lunch and refreshments will be served. This event is open to the public.

Because the December meeting is scheduled for two days after Christmas, Selgrath said he thought the meeting should be canceled. A motion to that effect was made by Joan Goodman, seconded by Rose Flamini. The next meeting will be held January 31, 2005.

Membership Committee

Eichman said there are 50 new members in the society, which includes the eight members mentioned at the previous meeting. He said membership now totals 232 as compared to 184 at this time last year.

Eichman said Selgrath's dues are paid until 2008 and because of his many contributions to the society, he proposed that he be made a lifetime member. Eichman's remark was greeted with applause. Selgrath thanked the group for giving him lifetime status.

Finance Committee

Treasurer Peg Grigalonis said the finance committee is in the process of preparing the 2005 budget and needs projections as to what money is needed.

Book Advisory Committee

Eichman said 105 advance orders have been received for the historic pictorial book of the Mahanoy Area. He said 400 copies have been ordered and he expects them in next week. He asked anyone who ordered a book to stop by the museum room to pick up their copy.

Artifacts

Reporting for the Artifacts Committee, Rose Flamini said there had been 400 acquisitions so far this year and 700 last year for a total of 1,100 acquisitions.

Community Preservation

Joan Goodman said she expects to have a price on the plaques at the next meeting.

Special Events

Kathy Wufsus said things were progressing well for the "German Christmas" program to be held December 11th. She is hoping to have the tickets printed and distributed fairly soon.

Special Committees

After a lengthy discussion, it was determined the services of a CPA is not necessary to perform an audit of the 2004 financial records. A motion was made by Swing Flamini, seconded by Selgrath, to appoint Lois Griffiths chairperson of the auditing committee to complete the audit.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

There was no unfinished or new business to discuss.

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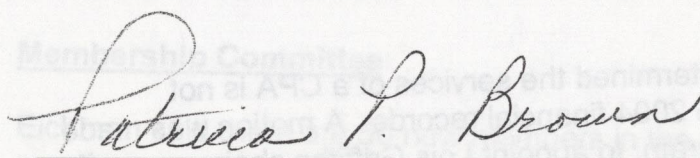
ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Dolly Wagner. The next meeting will be held Monday, November 29, 2005.

PROGRAM

Following the meeting, an interesting program was presented by Jerry Enders, who discussed antique and classic cars. He gave each person in attendance a coupon for a discounted admission price at his museum

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia P. Brown, Secretary



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President Frank Selgrath opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a brief prayer by Ray Eichman.

MINUTES

Minutes of the October 25th meeting were accepted as printed on a motion by Peg Grigalonis, seconded by Eichman.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report given by Grigalonis showed an opening balance of \$6,330.21 as of October 1, 2004. Deposits amounted to \$2,625.00. Expenditures were a \$75 donation to the Girls Softball League, \$27.39 for the monthly telephone service fee, \$91.99 fixture for hanging pictures, and \$4,016.04 to Arcadia Publishing for the purchase of historical books. The balance as of October 31, 2004 was \$4,744.79. The report was accepted on a motion by Swing Flamini, seconded by Rose Flamini.

CORRESPONDENCE

Selgrath said he had received several favorable e-mails regarding the historical book.

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COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Selgrath said the society still does not know what the insurance costs will be for the coming year, noting that Grigalonis usually gets the invoice in December. Joan Goodman suggested calling the insurance agency to ask for a verbal quote.

Selgrath asked if everyone attending had read the proposed revisions to the by-laws that were available in printed form. After suggesting a few minor changes, a motion was made by Grigalonis, seconded by Eichman and unanimously passed to accept the revised by-laws. A copy of the by-laws will be available at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Eichman to donate \$150 to the Mahanoy City Elks for use of their facility for the book signing and providing a light lunch, and a \$150 donation to the "Breaker Boys" for entertaining at the book signing. The motion was seconded by Grigalonis and passed with no opposition.

Finance Committee

Grigalonis presented a proposed budget for 2005.

Book Advisory Committee

Eichman said 300 of the 400 original books ordered were given to contributors and only 100 remained. He said the book committee should decide how many books should be re-ordered.

Artifacts

Reporting for the Artifacts Committee, Rose Flamini said there had been 1,100 acquisitions. Eichman noted that Mr. Kubilus donated his collection of steam engine pictures to the society with the stipulation that when they are no longer in use in the museum room, they will be returned to him.

Community Preservation

Goodman displayed an 18 x 24 inch bronze marker that she proposed being erected at the home at Main and Spruce streets currently undergoing renovations to restore it to its Victorian splendor that was originally owned by Harrison Ball, who was the first homeowner in Mahanoy City. She said the plaque with a

X

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picture and raised lettering would cost \$1,200. A plaque with lettering and no picture would cost \$830, and a 9 x 12 bronze marker would cost \$425. Goodman said the way the home is being remodeled represents community preservation in her mind. Goodman suggested the possibility of a fund-raising event to secure the funds necessary for the marker. Eichman suggested tabling the matter until the January meeting. Leslie Richardson, Peg Grigalonis and Betty Coombe volunteered to serve on the historic preservation committee.

Special Events

Kathy Wufsus outlined the program for the "German Christmas" program to be held December 11th at 11 a.m. in St. Fidelis Church followed by a German dinner at the Brookside Café in Park Place. Tickets are selling for \$15.

Programs and Speakers

It was noted that a video program of a performance of the "Breaker Boys" would be presented at the February meeting.

Special Committees

Eichman said he spoke with Lois Griffiths, who volunteered to do an audit of the society's 2004 books after the first of the year.

UNFINISHED

Looking ahead to the end of 2005, Selgrath said officers would be elected at that time. Comments were made regarding the publicity being given the new historical book and it was noted John Zalusky, manager of Schuylkill Plus wants to do a story on the book.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Eichman, seconded by Swing Flamini to dispense with the December meeting and have the next meeting on Monday, January 31, 2005.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned on a motion by Eichman, seconded by Wufsus.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia P. Brown, Secretary