

Brooklyn Historical Society (BHS)
Spring Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2017
Brooklyn Township Building

President David Palmer opened the meeting at 2:10 pm and led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Twenty attendees were noted and signed the attendance roster. Note that this attendance roster includes addresses and point of contact information. Specifically, Margaret Garrison has added her new address.

David Palmer noted that today is the anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War on April 30 1975. He thought it appropriate to recognize some of those killed in action (KIA) from our area. They include:

Corp Clarence James Tiffany of Lennoxville; Lance Corporal David Albert Parker of Clarks Summit (childhood friend of David Palmer); PFC Francis Joseph Connor of Clifford; PFC Gary Edward Hibbard of Dimock; A1C Lawrence Augustine Berneski of Forest City; Private Rodney Lee Ransom of Forest City; SSGT Robert Lloyd Platt of Leraysville; Corporal Harry H. Eggleston of Little Meadows; three others names noted from audience members.

In attendance as a guest representing the Northeastern Pennsylvania Genealogical Research Society was Maureen Gray. Maureen set up display of the society and welcomed inquiry.

The minutes of the annual meeting in July 2016 were unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's report noted a checkbook balance of \$9617.31 and a certificate of savings account balance of \$16,161.27. Motion was made by and seconded by to approve the report. Motioned approved unanimously.

David Palmer requested a payment of \$93.28 for printing of the Spring Newsletter. Motion made by and seconded by to approve the request. Motion was approved unanimously.

A letter from the Genealogical Research Society of Northeastern PA, requesting a donation in support of the preservation of a historic U.S. Flag was read. The preservation effort is for a flag with 45 stars, which means it was manufactured between January 4, 1896 when Utah was admitted to the Union and November 16, 1907 when Oklahoma was admitted. It will be displayed behind a plexi-glass frame, which in itself is very expensive. A placard will be placed near the displayed flag with the names of all donors, including the Brooklyn Historical Society. Motion was made by and seconded by to approve donating \$100 toward this effort. Motion was unanimously approved.

Richard Zick Sr. reported that he has been attending monthly Brooklyn Township Supervisor meetings to advocate for a meeting room to be included in the new township building for use by the BHS. The Supervisors have assured him there will be accommodations for the BHS and its artifacts, but no details are available yet.

The By-Laws Committee presented the updated By-Laws to be considered for formal action at the Summer 2017 Annual Meeting. Significant changes have been made to the By-Laws, specifically the consolidation of

many officer and trustee positions. This was done as it was increasingly difficult to fill these positions. The By-Laws Committee consisted of Patricia Button, Bill Zick, Paul Gere, David Palmer, Jack Thomas and Jacqueline Thomas. Curtis Stone recommended that the updated amended By-Laws have all previous amendments to these By-Laws included in the very front of the new updated document. This will be accomplished by the committee.

David Palmer also reported that Gwen Diaz-Neely will be the Family Histories Trustee. Also that Richard McKnight II will serve as the BHS Webmaster.

Audit report by Patricia Button was presented as conducted on October 27, 2016. Said report is attached as part of this record. Motion was made by and seconded by to accept the audit report. Motion carried unanimously.

It was recommended that the BHS fiscal year run from June 1st to May 31st. Also that annual dues be increased to \$5 a year from the current \$2 a year. A motion to this effect was made by and seconded by Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of a plaque on Martins Creek Viaduct. It was felt the Norfolk and Southern Railroad should be approached. David Palmer will look into that. Dave also reported on the effort to get the viaduct into the National Historic Registry. The effort involving the help of two Mt View H.S. seniors is ongoing, but delayed a bit due to illnesses in the two student's families. David Palmer will continue the effort as appropriate.

Mr Ken Parks then presented a power point presentation entitled "DNA Boot Camp." Basic Training for the Genetic Genealogist was discussed by Ken in an informative way with lots of opportunities for questions. He talked about different DNA testing firms, blogs and publications. A number of attendees offered that they have pursued their DNA information from a number of the firms offering such services. An informative hand out was given to all attendees for their future reference and efforts.

Motion was made by and seconded by to adjourn meeting at 4:15 pm. This motion was accepted by unanimous vote.

Refreshments were then served.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Thomas, Secretary