



9/13/2016

A MAMC Board of Directors meeting was held on September 13th, 2016 at the City of Grandville D.P.W. Meeting start time was 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Suzanne Rowland. Present were Laurie Burns, Secretary/Treasurer Kirk Caithamer, Tom Drougel, Kevin Gebhard, David Jewell, Vice President Stacy Loar-Porter, and Steven Mephram. Absent was Al Dumond.

The minutes from last meeting were read by Kirk Caithamer. A motion to accept was made by Stacy Loar-Porter and 2nd by David Jewell. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried.

The financial report was read by Kirk Caithamer. A motion to accept was made by David Jewell and 2nd by Tom Drougel. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried.

Old Business

The 2016 Conference report was read. A total of 79 people signed up for the complete conference. 53 membership groups were represented and 57 rooms were rented per night.

Stacy Loar-Porter read over the results from the survey that she passed out at the 2016 Conference. It asked the members that were in attendance, which Cities that they would like to see future Conferences held in. The top 3 in this order were Traverse City, Frankenmuth and Mackinaw City. The Board felt that after spending the last 3 years in Traverse City that a change of venue would be in order, even though it finished first in the survey. A motion was made by Kirk Caithamer and 2nd by Tom Drougel to have the 2017 Conference held in Frankenmuth. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried.

Kirk Caithamer asked the Board to consider moving the 2017 Conference to an August 16th ~ August 18th date. The dates would not be in conflict with the Annual Clerk's Conference that is held in June around the same time as the MAMC Conference. The hope was, since many cemeteries are run by Clerk's, this would allow more of them to attend both. A motion was made by Kirk Caithamer and 2nd by Tom Drougel to change the dates. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried.

Kirk Caithamer has been in contact with The Barvarian Inn Lodge, in Frankenmuth, to hold the dates if the Board approved. He will contact them to get a contract drawn up as soon as possible and have it forwarded to Suzanne Rowland for approval.

New Business

Topics and speakers for the 2017 Conference were brought up. After much discussion, the Board decided to move forward on the following:

Wednesday Night Presentation - Cemetery maintenance equipment, with Rick Blue. Kevin Gebhard will gather information on this.

Thursday Morning Presentation – Cemetery ordinances and procedures, with Cindy Davis from the Michigan Township Association. Kirk Caithamer will be in charge of this.

Thursday Afternoon Presentation – Religious burials and customs, with a representative from Michigan State University. Tom Drougel will be in charge of this.

Friday Morning Presentation – Group panel discussion / question and answer session, with the Board presiding.

One speaker with backup potential would be could be Chris Czopek from the Sons of the Civil War, who has spoken before and was well received.

A location for the 2018 Conference was discussed. The Double JJ Ranch in Rothbury and Treetops Resort in Gaylord were mentioned as possible locations. The dates would be August 15th thru August 17th.

The Board reviewed the presentation of the Cemeterian of the Year Award and if it should be changed. It was discussed if it would be better to surprise a recipient or to let them know ahead of time so they can be better prepared to accept the award. No decision was made at this time.

Suzanne Rowland brought up the idea of having more sub committees on the Board. Having small groups in charge of things such as the web-site, yearly membership drive, conference locations and the association's bylaws were introduced. This will be revised at the next Board meeting.

Suzanne Rowland talked about improving the MAMC online presence. She stated that we could get a link to our web site through Facebook to help and this would be one way to help. She also said that people have been looking at the web site and suggested to the Board that we should keep it current. The MAMC web site address is **michiganamc.org**.

Reviewing and possibly updating the MAMC Bylaws was discussed. Many of the bylaws that the MAMC instituted in 1989 are either out dated or not followed. The Board felt that they needed to decide to either follow them or make changes to them. One of the main questions the Board had was whether could we rewrite the bylaws ourselves or do we need an attorney. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

The 2017 Conference registration fees will be discussed further at the next Board meeting. The MAMC balance sheet and menu costs will be looked at to help determine the fees that need to be charged.

The 2017 MAMC membership dues were set at \$35.00 per year. A motion was made by Kirk Caithamer and 2nd by Kevin Gebhard. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried

The next meeting was set for December 13th, 2016 at the City of Grandville D.P.W. The meeting start time will be at 10:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Kevin Gebhard and 2nd by David Jewell. 8 yeas and 0 nays, carried.

11:50 a.m. Meeting ended.

Kirk Caithamer
Secretary/Treasurer
MAMC