Michigan Council for History Education

Saturday, March 2, 2019

10am

THOSE PRESENT: Tamara Schreiner, Michelle Anderson, Scott Durham , Jim McConnell , Nick Orlowski, Sean O’Neill, Jana Pisani, Elaine Themm, Bill Warren, David Zwart

The meeting was Called to Order at 10:14am.

There was no Secretary’s report.

David Zwart, Treasurer, reported that we have a balance $23,464.93. Main expenses were associated with the conference (awards, reception).

The Board then entered into a conversation about the proposed changes to the Constitution of the MCHE.

Jim McConnell gave a brief history of the Constitution. An important inclusion in the proposed version is the addition of specific dates/deadlines for specific actions.

There was a discussion about whether to hold as a threshold for elections of officers to be a 2/3 vote or a majority vote.

Final changes will include: Meetings times, change to majority votes, separate section on committees, include specific dates, and eliminate redundancies.

Jim McConnell moved, seconded by Bill Warren, that the proposed changes be compiled in a final draft and submitted to the Board for approval electronically. The motion passed unanimously.

Tamara Shreiner entered into a discussion on potential new committee members. She nominated Petra Alsoofy from the Arab American National Museum. Durham seconded the nomination. She was approved unanimously.

Tamara discussed another potential nominee who is future teacher. The Board supported the idea of a new teacher serving on the Board.

David Zwart moved the nomination of Kailie Burk to the Board and was seconded by Bill Warren. The motion was approved unanimously. The Board then urged the next two Board seats be encouraged for underrepresented populations.

Tamara suggested we create an ad-hoc committee to think about membership and present to the Board in a subsequent meeting with suggestions and changes with how we deal with and think about membership

Tamara then reviewed the Kalamazoo History & Hops event in November and the History & Hops event at Founders in Grand Rapids in December. She mentioned that Founders was very supportive and open to having us (tours, appetizers, etc.). Bill shared that the event is Kalamazoo was sparsely attended but was productive. The event in Grand Rapids had 12-15 participants. The Board decided to continue with History & Hops and add another series of themed events with museums (Michigan Historical Center – Jim McConnell, Gilmore Car Museum – Bill Warren).

Tamara moved on to update the Board on the status of the new Michigan Social Studies Standards. After a review of the proposed standards, they were sent to the Diversity Committee to ensure that all voices are represented (additional active outreach has been done to include more voices as well). A complete draft should be presented to the State Board of Education in March. A tentative date for approval has been slated for June.

There was an outpouring of support and gratitude for the work Jim Cameron has done in this work.

There was agreement from the Board that Catherine Tuzcek be appointed a conference chair to investigate what a 2020 MCHE conference might look like.

The location of the next Board meeting in June will hopefully be on the east side of the state.

Tamara ended the meeting by encouraging us all to assist the upcoming newly appointed committee chairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Durham – acting Secretary