

Delaware Mineralogical Society, Inc.

P. O. Box 5506

Wilmington, Delaware 19808-5506

Subject: Minutes of DMS Board Meeting
Date: November 29, 2010
Location: Greenbank Mill, Wilmington, DE

Attendees: Ken Casey, Scott Peters, Wendy Sbriglia, Eric Hottenstein, Bob Asreen, Robert Ehrlich, Alex Kane, Rob and Beth Simpkins, Carl Muendel, Gene Hartstein, Marjie Marshall

President Ken Casey called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM. Motion was presented and seconded to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the last board meeting. The items addressed were as follows:

1. Elections: Eric H. and Bob A. have decided to step down from their current positions on the board. In addition, there is one Director-at-large position that will be open for the next term. Alex will form a nominating committee to search for new candidates for these positions but this will not be accomplished by the December meeting and consequent vote. A change in the bylaws that will allow for the election to be held at the February meeting was proposed and accepted. The vote on the change in by-laws will be held at the December party.
2. Financials: Wendy reported the club is solvent and that she has transferred one of the club's CD's to the money market because of the favorable interest rates. The club has spent \$445 on the gold specimens that have been raffled throughout the year generating an income of \$338. It is expected that additional sales of raffle tickets at the December meeting will make up for the revenue shortfall. Along these lines Alex suggested that the club purchase specimens from private collections or at mineral shows and raffle these at meetings to generate more income. Alex considered this part of the Programs and as such, was asked to formalize a proposal for the programs budget which would include potential specimen purchases.
3. 50th Anniversary: The club's 50th Anniversary will conclude with the December party, being held at the Delaware National Golf Club. There are two custom-made cakes being constructed for this event and it was agreed to pay the approximate \$10 delivery charge rather than worrying about picking them up on the day of the event.
4. Show Committee: Wayne Urion was absent, but it was reported that a show committee meeting will be held in January.

5. Science Olympiad: Alex proposed that DMS sponsor scholarships to the Science Olympiad. This will be brought up for future discussion. Gene suggested that a sub-committee be formed to evaluate the idea.
6. Donations to Other Organizations: It was suggested that the \$300 previously stipulated for donation to Iron Hill be personally delivered by Alex and at that time he will ask if the museum would provide a small space for DMS to set out show flyers when the time comes. Wendy asked if our donations to Greenbank can be done under the umbrella of a business donation thus allowing our “business card” to be printed in Greenbank’s materials. There were no objections or concerns with this.
7. Ideas to Increase Membership: Robert Ehrlich reported that dues were coming in at a slow pace. Rather than have a lengthy chat about increasing membership it was suggested that specific ideas be presented at a future meeting.
8. Lapidary Program: It has been suggested by several board members that the club’s currently defunct lapidary program be resurrected. Concerns include a place to conduct the lapidary program (rent, borrow, buy?) and the purchase of equipment. The club had sold all lapidary equipment in 2006 to alleviate the need for storage space so it would have to be repurchased. While new equipment is generally expensive, Marjie stated that used equipment could be found at a reasonable cost. Gene offered that until we have a place to keep and use the equipment we should hold off on purchase discussions. Alex suggested we look into finding space in a retirement community which raises questions of liability but also offers the benefit of a “built-in student body”. Carl thought that renting or sharing commercial space would leave the club at the mercy of changes in heart, leases, owners, etc., and that a retirement community would offer more long-term stability. Since long-term members fondly remember the “days of lapidary” it was decided that further discussion was warranted. Scott made a motion to establish a committee to investigate and evaluate accommodations. The motion was seconded and agreed to in a vote. Ken will form the committee and come back to the board with proposals but will not have the autonomy to make firm commitments should an opportunity arise; the board will be involved prior to committing to a lapidary space.
9. Board and General Meeting Minutes: The club’s bylaws state that the minutes from Board and General meetings must be part of the official record. Having them included in the Geogram would accomplish this goal, an action that has not been performed with any regularity in the past.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.

These are the minutes of the meeting as to my notes and recollection.
Submitted by Eric Hottenstein, Recording Secretary