



MAHANOY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1-7 West Center Street
P.O. Box 127
Mahanoy City, PA 17948
570-773-1295

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held on Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 7 PM at the Rhoades Downtown Center. Attending were: Tom Ward, Frank Senglar, Bettie Ann Chescattie, Ramon Soto, Paul Coombe, Charles Savage, Angela Witconis, Mary Lou Henninger and Mandy Dubiansky. President Tom Ward opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Paul Coombe.

MINUTES

The minutes of the February, 2012 meeting were read and approved on a motion by Ramon Soto and seconded by Frank Senglar.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning balance: \$5319.05

Receipts: \$1147.00

Expenditures: \$1528.73

The treasurer's report indicated the following balances:

General Account: \$ 4975.85 (includes \$197.29 Memorial fund monies)

Paypal: \$549.37

CD: \$10,056.99 (matures 02/10/12 0.10%)

Newspaper: \$6447.81

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Mahanoy City Memorial Day Parade Committee invited the Historical Society's participation in the parade. Ramon Soto volunteered to parade with the miner's wagon; Paul Coombe volunteered to drive a car.

An e-mail from the Tremont Historical Society announcing a program on the anthracite miner entitled *Hard Coal- Hard Times and Its People* to be held on April 20th at 7 PM at the Tremont Borough Building.

COMMITTEES

Membership: Marjorie Fletcher reported via e-mail that membership has increased to 156 with 111 paid through 2012.

Images Book: Paul Coombe reported that test pictures were sent to Arcadia Publishing for pre-approval in order to give the committee an understanding of the type of picture submissions that are acceptable.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Tom Ward reported on the need for additional space for historical items. The basement of the Rhoades Building has been offered, but has a history of dampness.



MAHANROY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2. Tom Ward reported on a program on Powwow healing to be presented on April 26 at 7 PM. A motion to give the presenter an honorarium of \$75 was made by Paul Coombe and approved.
3. Tom Ward Jr. is scheduled for a picture presentation on September 27.
4. On a motion by Frank Senglar, seconded by Angela Witconis, Charles Adams will be scheduled for a program on Ghosts of the Coal Region on October 24th.
5. A discussion of future programs followed . Contact will be made with Bob Fallan for a program on early Mahanoy History; Judge John Domalakes on Peddler's Grave and Maureen Costello on Clara Barton and the American Red Cross in the Civil War.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A Purple Heart Memorial display honoring veterans of the Mahanoy Area has been placed in the Historical Room window by Frank Senglar and Ramon Soto.
2. Tom Ward reported on the James Rhoades Downtown Band Concert to be presented by the Upper Schuylkill Marching Band and which is proposed for late August or early September. He has already contacted the Rhoades family and they have offered support. A motion to have Tom continue plans for the concert made by Mary Lou Henninger and seconded by Ramon Soto was passed .
3. Paul Coombe reported on wide bed scanners suitable for scanning newspapers. The cost of the scanners range from \$6,000 to \$10,000 . This cost is much less than the cost of completing the Newspaper Project by sending the remaining 30 years of binders out to be copied. The savings over the life of the project would be \$90,000 but would require volunteer help to complete the scans of approximated 100,000 newspaper pages. PC asked for a volunteer to travel to Canton, Ohio to see the scanners in operation. Ramon Soto volunteered.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 25 at 1 PM due to the program the following evening.

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mary Lou Henninger , seconded by Charles Savage .