**SOCIETY FOR GERMAN GENEALOGY IN EASTERN EUROPE (SGGEE)**

**EXECUTIVE MINUTES 2016-2017**

**August 1, 2016**

Effective August 1, 2016 John Rauchert will be the primary mail pickup in the post office in Calgary. Dick Stein will be the backup.

**September 4, 2016**

A discussion took place regarding password security in the SGGEE Members Only site and a possible reset link.

**September 6, 2016**

A motion was made by Dan Pratt as follows: “Forwarding Private Correspondence: If you have received an email from an outside party providing information for a listserv member requesting that information, only forward the message to the member who made the request.Do notforward the private communication on the listserv unless you have specific permission from the person who gave you that information. All listserv communication is publicly available and can be searched openly online thereby making that potentially private information open to the public. SGGEEaccepts no responsibility or liability for communications of this nature made bylistserv members**.**” The motion was seconded by Alan Pfahl. Motion carried.

**September 13, 2016**

Corporations Canada Annual Return, form 4022 and the Change of Directors form 4006 were completed. Copies were sent to Rose Ingram along with the 2016 AGM Minutes to be filed in the chapter Minutes Book.

**October 10, 2016**

Based on the recommendation of the Convention Committee, Melonie Liening moved that SGGEE reserve a booth during the German American Genealogical Partnership Convention in Minneapolis, MN July 28-30, 2017 for the total cost of $35.00. Also that a donation of $50.00 be made to the German American Genealogical Partnership Convention to support the development of their website. Alan Pfahl seconded the motion. Motion approved.

**October 19, 2016**

An update from Rodney Frank regarding his father Jerry Frank’s maps, etc. was received.” I apologize for the length of time it’s taken to get to this point but I’ve finally gotten through all my dad’s paper records and have moved on the to the digital materials. I’ve located a large swath of the files he used to create his “MapBook” The files include jpg’s of all the source maps and the Adobe Illustrator files that he used to create his versions of the maps.  There are PDF versions of everything as well. There are overview pages with references to all the “sub-maps”.  I’m not sure I have the full compliment yet but this seems to be the bulk of the maps.

I thought I would reach out to see how you’d like to proceed.  It was my fathers intent that anyone that could benefit be given full access to the materials.  I personally have no use for the source material.  I will likely Organize and Keep one copy of the “MapBook” but beyond that I am open to whatever arrangement you would like to explore for the continued use and modification of this material. Please let me know how you would like to proceed.”

A reply to Rodney stated that John Rauchert was given chief authority to discuss and work out any desired copyright agreements and that his letter would also be forwarded to Karl Krueger and Earl Schulz who have volunteered to help with decision making at Rodney’s convenience.

**Oct 27, 2016**

Richard Flanagan was added to [databases@sggee.org](mailto:databases@sggee.org) to take queries regarding the Provisional Zhitomir Archive files per request of Rose Ingram.

**October 27, 2016**

After discussion a motion was made by Dan Pratt “That the Board authorize appropriation of the sum of $1,000 US dollars, for Alex Brzhezitsky to go on behalf of SGGEE to the St. Petersburg City Historical Archive to get acquainted, to find out which Evangelical church books exist containing birth, death, and marriage records for the years 1886-1899, and or other records which may be of interest to SGGEE, and to determine how extractions can be made available. These funds should cover Alex's travel, hotel, and other necessary expenses.  Remuneration to Alex for his efforts should be applied from these funds." This was seconded by Richard Benert. Motion passed.

**October 19, 2017**

Dick Benert has been in contact with the Germans from Russia Heritage Society regarding the possibility of combining our library with theirs. This is the reply by Don Ehreth.

Dick,

I had a chat with our GRHS Office Manager a few minutes ago. She and officers of GRHS have given your idea of placing the SGGEE library at our GRHS Library in Bismarck, ND.  In addition, she told me that she does receive requests for information related to Volhynia, Volynia, or Volyna GRs from time to time so the integration of our two libraries makes a lot of sense.  This topic will also be raised during our own Board meeting on October 27th. [the meeting is on the 22nd. RB] The following will form the basis of my proposal to the full Board.

To integrate your collection into ours would also mean that for the greatest efficiency of searching for specific works, we would like to:

·       Incorporate the Dewey Decimal system for your collection just as we do for our own.  That would make it possible to find any book, etc. using a computer.  Otherwise, our staff or a visitor would have to perform a physical search for each request for a book, etc.  We would have to defray those expenses by charging SGGEE.  We only want to cover our costs just as we do with our membership dues. We prefer to integrate your collection into ours to make it possible to search for specific books electronically. We would not have any way to inventory, manage, or track usage by visitors of your books or ours any other way.

·       We do not lend out our books so we would like that policy to apply to SGGEE’s library collection. Our experience includes missing books, etc. that were not returned as committed to by those checking out books, etc. Your members would be given the same professional and responsive service our membership enjoys.

·       For a very nominal fee, ours staff provide a research and copy service for anyone seeking specific information contained in the books, etc.

·       While we have not determined a fee to store and integrate your collection into that of GRHS, I suspect that it would be based on a percentage of our overhead for library operations. Research and copy services would be based on our standard rate to do so for requests from our membership.  However, from a Taxing perspective, it might be mutually beneficial for whatever fee we agree upon to be provided as a donation, thus avoiding taxes for both parties.

A thought for the future might be integrating your digital collection with GRHS so that both memberships could benefit from such an extensive data base. Access and security would have to be thought through, but I believe that it could be done. We have ample digital capacity on [GRHS.org](http://GRHS.org) at this time; additional capacity is not extremely expensive should that ever be needed. In addition, our online bookstore could also accommodate any interests by SGGEE to sell products that they wish to sell. In fact, GRHS members could be interested in procuring certain books, data, etc.

I hope that your Board will look favorably on our enthusiasm for integrating our two collections as a positive factor for consummating an agreement amenable to both Societies.  All me if you have any questions at 703-629-8690.

Regards, Don

Dick then proposed the following:

"In view of the expressed interest of the Germans from Russia Historical  
Society in merging the SGGEE Library into theirs at their headquarters  
in Bismarck, North Dakota, and also of the need for SGGEE to find a home  
for its Library that will provide optimal resources for making use of  
it, I move that Edie Adam appoint one or more persons to carry on a  
conversation with GRHS about this project and to work out the details of  
a working agreement beneficial to both parties involved and approved by  
their respective Boards of Directors."

**November 6, 2016**

The membership committee has proposed the following policy change to renewals. Edie Adam moved that “The grace period to renew membership ends on January 31 of the new calendar year. Members who do not renew and pay by that date lose their membership privileges pending renewal.” David Neumann seconded. Motion passed.

**November 11, 2016**

An update from Dick Benert on a possible translator for the Kostiuk book on Volhynia Colonies. “Inna Stryukova, who lives in Nikolaev, Ukraine, has expressed a desire to translate Mykhailo Kostiuk's book, The German Colonies in Volhynia, from Ukrainian to English.  She is now in contact  
with Kostiuk, so I assume that he approves of her. She writes Englishvery well, so I'm encouraged.  She suggested a rate of $5 per page, which is extremely reasonable.  She will be able to be more precise  
about the cost after she gets a copy of the book from Kostiuk.”

**December 1, 2017**

The resignation from the Board of Directors was received from Dan Pratt for personal reasons.

**January 9, 2017**

Honorary memberships were given to the following:

Brzhezytskyy, Alex Zhitomir UK Mantey, Ansgar 25436  GER

Mueller, Irmgard AGoFF GER Marufke, Brigitte AGoFF GER

Stewner, Frank  GER Harbich-Schoenert, Beate AGoFF GER

Warner, Matthew J.  USA

Rodney Frank (for transition of Jerry’s materials/information on the website as Jerry’s membership will expire.)

**January 24, 2017**

The Lublin Database is to be moved to the Members Only area of the website, on or before February 1, 2017.

**February 1, 2017**

Dick Benert moved to install Helen Gillespie to take Dan Pratt’s seat on the Board of Directors until the next official board election. David Neumann seconded. Approved. Helen will take on the Research Committee liaison role.

**March 20, 2017**

The Convention Committee has recommended and would like the board’s support in their decision to provide dinner to the SGGEE members and one guest attending the German Genealogy Convention on the evening of July 28, prior to the Annual General Meeting of SGGEE. After discussion, the board supported this recommendation.

**April 22, 2017**

It was brought to our attention that Dieter Pechner and Juergen Frantz, AGoff members, were not given honorary memberships to SGGEE for 2017. A motion by Dick Benert, seconded by David Neumann, to offer honorary memberships has been approved. Edie Adam will notify them of their access to the website again this year.

**May 1, 2017**

Discussion of recognizing Don Miller and his contributions to the Volhynian people, Volhynian Baptist research and his Volhynian Ancestral Tours. A write up in the journal and/or on the website was discussed.

**July 3, 2017**

Alan Pfahl submitted his resignation as Treasurer for personal reasons. Edie Adam thanked him for his service with SGGEE and has moved that Virginia Braun fill his seat on the board and act as Treasurer, effective immediately. Her confirmation of appointment will be at the AGM the end of July. Melonie Liening seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**July 5, 2017**

Matt Warner has suggested that we consider covering “the cost of hosting our website in the cloud. Doing so would provide greater stability and resistance to outages than a physical server and take us out of the business of owning and maintaining those physical assets.” Matt suggests that $150 US per month would cover the associated fees. Edie suggests that we begin budgeting the money with the goal of moving to the cloud by the end of the year. This can be included in the current final budget.

**July 11, 2017**

The final 2017-2018 budget has been received from Virginia Braun. After opportunity for discussion, a motion was made by David Neuman for acceptance, seconded by Melonie Liening. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Melonie Liening

Recording Secretary