

SUNFLOWER GENEALOGY SOCIETY
Meeting November 28, 2023 2:00 PM
Minutes

SPEAKER

The speaker, via Zoom, was to be Crista Cowan, but the technology didn't allow us to play the DVD. After rearranging the agenda, we changed to a Zoom presentation that would have been December's presentation. Dr. John Colletta's program on "How to Build Historical Context" was an interesting discussion on how to build a story of one experience that will add to your historical and biographical understanding of a relative. Colletta used a family case study to show how it can be done to make an interesting and meaningful story.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

The Director then called the meeting to order for the business meeting at 2:10. Fifteen members attended the meeting in the Fiesta room and six people attended via Zoom. She urged the group to pay their dues for 2024. She noted that Curtis Tyler had given her a check to pay his dues and that included a donation to the club of \$250.00. The donation was truly appreciated by the society.

Eileen talked about the Expo. The committee of three decided that they needed something to make people actually stop at the table instead of just moving right past it as had been done many times in the past. So, they put their heads together and built a 6-foot tree with all sorts of interesting finds from their relatives. It had the desired effect—people did stop and read what was on the tree. We had a good showing with some new members signing up.

The Assistant Director reported that her duties were mainly to keep the public and members abreast of the news about the Society. She will be sending out a notice for the communicator and the Suncatcher for January.

The Treasurer gave a financial report for the month, noting that we have \$1,942.19 in our bank account at month's end.

STANDING COMMITTEES

We voted at the Board Meeting to keep the annual dues at \$15.00 per family. Dues are due now for 2024—anyone paying in October, November, or December will be covered for dues through 2024.

There was a discussion of the password for our website. The Tech Club worked on a new website for the Center and came up with a new password. Nobody liked the new password, though it was revealed at the meeting so everyone knew what the password was. Kim and Kathryn will be working to get the password changed. As soon as that happens Eileen will let all members know of the change.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Sue Cerri, as a member of the Nominating Committee, announced the slate of officers for 2024. A motion was made and seconded that the members approve the slate of officers and the motion carried unanimously. Eileen Carney is the Director, Paulette Weiser is the Assistant Director, Arnie Seppi is the Secretary and Kim Gunyou is the Treasurer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Under unfinished business Eileen talked about the Christmas Party. It will be held on December 15th at 2:00. Members are asked to bring cookies, which can be shared by all. Members are also instructed to bring a story of their research. Everybody loves to hear stories.

NEW BUSINESS

Kim Gunyou had asked for a discussion with the members about rearranging the agenda for the members meeting. She recommended that we take a break after the speaker and use that break to share cookies, stories, and interesting things coming up in genealogy. The group held a discussion and decided that it was a very good idea to rearrange our agenda. No other suggestions were made, but it was noted that the group is always looking forward to hear from the membership on ways to improve and make our meetings more interesting and relatable.

Eileen then called for members to share stories from their research or even any stories that might be of value to the members. At first no one offered to speak so Eileen told a story from the Expo. A lady came to the expo table and while she loved the tree and presentation, she had a story for the group. She asked her family of young people if they were interested in supporting her to do the research for their family history. This was their reply. Why bother! AI will be able to write your family history in a few minutes in the coming future! This is a serious consideration to think about and perhaps do some research on.

Paulette Weiser described her family reunions. They have been going for many years, and continue to this day, with around 125 people still attending.

A vote ended the meeting at 3:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Arnie Seppi
Secretary