

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND
Minutes of the Meeting
April 6, 2021

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m. Approximately 18 participants attended virtually.

The March 2021 meeting minutes were read aloud and approved.

Treasurer Ben Kman gave the treasurer's report. Our balance as of Mar. 2, 2021 was \$4,124.31. Income was \$48.00 for dues. Expenses were \$16 for rent (Zoom fee), \$135.00 for the newsletter, and \$75.00 for printing, for total expenses of \$226.00. We had a net loss for the month of \$178.00. Our current balance is \$3,946.31.

Vice President Michael Speare was absent. President Anthonette Baciak relayed the addition of one new member, for a total of 61.

Old Business

Anthonette reported that we hope to try a new, lower cost printer for our June newsletter.

Anthonette shared the results of the logo vote that took place via email prior to the meeting. Thirty-one people voted in favor of the updated logo, and one person voted against. The majority approved the updated logo going forward.

New Business

Per the new bylaws, Anthonette appointed Richard Szczepinski to audit the 2020 financial report. Richard audited the files and found no discrepancies. The 2020 financials are verified and approved. Thank you, Richard!

Anthonette reported that we had the first Executive Board meeting on March 22, 2021 under the new bylaw requirement. One topic of discussion was the desire to retain Zoom access for out-of-town members whenever we return to in-person meetings. Anthonette's tentative hope for an in-person return is September 2021. This would depend on the governor's recommendations as well as the church's safety rules.

Another topic discussed at the board meeting was a brochure to advertise the club. The board is investigating printing costs for this idea.

The board also voted to purchase the pgsgc.org domain name for our potential new website. Michael is spearheading this project and will share more information as it develops.

Anthonette reminded us about the club t-shirts we discussed prior to the pandemic. That has been tabled for now.

Ben Kman reported that he will set up a Google Drive account for us so that we can store our organization's files in one place online.

Anthonette recommended everyone check out our current webpage for its plentiful resources. Thank you to Michael for making improvements on our webpage!

Ben broke through a brick wall by locating a marriage record he's been searching for for fifteen years!

Lucia Dominick discovered a resource for matching pre-1906 Cleveland street names with their modern replacements. She found the conversions are available in old city directories available on the Cleveland Public Library website.

Al Figler shared that he recently connected with a member who shares a surname, and they discovered their grandfathers were brothers!

The business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Tonight's presentation was "Deciphering Cyrillic" by Ben Kman. Ben demonstrated how to pick out the important information from handwritten Russian records in paragraph format. He recommends the fantastic book "In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide to Polish, German, Latin, and Russian Documents – Volume II: Russian" by Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman, which provides excellent translation help. The presentation handout was emailed to members prior to the meeting. Thank you for making Cyrillic less daunting, Ben!

Anthonette mentioned that St. Stanislaus will be having a procession for the Feast of Corpus Christi in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Corina Mesenger