

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER CLEVELAND
Minutes of the Meeting
Jan. 4, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. Thirteen participants attended in-person, and eleven attended virtually.

President Michael Speare welcomed all in attendance. Michael acknowledged past Presidents Anthonette Baciak, Ron Kraine, John Szuch and Treasurer Ben Kman for their leadership and dedicated service to our organization throughout the years.

President Michael Speare reported a current total of 67 members. Thirty members have yet to renew for the coming year. Please submit your renewal form with \$24.00 dues check made out to "PGSGC" at your earliest convenience.

President Michael Speare indicated, although he and Vice-President Richard Szczepinski are currently handling membership duties, the Society needs a Membership Chairperson.

The December 2021 meeting minutes were read aloud and approved.

Treasurer Ben Kman gave the treasurer's report. Our balance as of Jan. 4, 2022 was \$4,491.71. Income was \$851.00 for dues, \$20.00 for the 50/50 Raffle, and \$538.00 for donations, for a total of \$1409.00 in income. Expenses were \$16 for rent (Zoom), \$19.92 postage and \$51.24 for printing, for a total of \$87.16 in expenses. We had a net gain for the month of \$1321.84. Our current balance as of January 4, 2022 is \$4,491.71. The treasurer's report was accepted.

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Vice-President Richard Szczepinski is researching audio/visual equipment to help improve our ZOOM online experience. Attending meetings via ZOOM is great opportunity for members who cannot attend in-person. However, online meetings has its advantages and disadvantages in our ever-changing world.

President Michael Speare reminded us that Trina Galauner is looking for contributors to the newsletter. We all have a story to tell - it could be traditions, family history or interesting story. Don't be shy – if anyone needs help writing their story contact Michael Speare and he can assist. As for submitting contributions to our newsletter, please see the submission guidelines found on our website.

President Michael Speare reminded the group that we, all have an opportunity to do a brief 3-5 minute biography and presentation opportunities – surnames, location, successes or roadblocks while researching.

New member Bernadette Berger presented. Bernadette recently retired, started researching September 2021. DNA testing, email and phone calls able to connect with a few cousins. Grew up in Garfield Hts; attended St. Peter & Paul school. Lived with her grandmother on E. 65th & Gertrude. While there attended St. Stanislaus and Cleveland Central Catholic. Bernadette's grandmother didn't speak English. Bernadette doesn't read Polish – any help translating documents would be great. Bernadette's grandparents worked at Tyburski's Bar in Slavic Village c. 1915-1925. Tyburski was husband to grandfather's sister. Bernadette has relatives from Chicago who lived in Slavic Village area - Gertrude and Hossler Avenues during 1920s-1930s. Bernadette looking to travel to Poland at some time - Warsaw, Rypin, Auschwitz and Krakow.

Vice-President Richard Szczepinski announced Ron Stelmarski had a flyer for St. Casimir's 8223 Sowinski Ave Cleveland, OH 44103. The church is selling commemorative watches celebrating the Centennial of the Republic of Poland.

President Michael Speare and Treasurer Ben Kman briefly discussed their Polish family traditions.

President Michael Speare thanked former Secretary Cori Messenger for her dedicated work the past 2 years. Although Cori is no longer Society Secretary, she will continue to improve our website.

The Society discussed hybrid meetings (in-person and online at same time) and in climate weather considerations.

President Michael Speare asked the group to keep in mind any events or festivals that maybe PGSPC would have a table and display.

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50/50 Raffle. At the February meeting, two items will be raffled – “God Bless This House” plaque and a Santa Claus figurine.

Treasurer Ben Kman's presentation *Location, Location, Location* was an overview of www.stephendanko.com website highlighting border changes, partition, government and administrative districts. The presentation was recorded and will be made available to members on our website.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.
Minutes submitted by Donald Demor.