

Annual Meeting Minutes of Fellowship of Brethren Genealogists
Tampa, FL
July 13, 2015

Minutes from Video of the Meeting by President Gerald W. Rhoades

Meeting was chaired by our vice president, Karen Garrett.

Introductions were made.

Minutes of the 2014 Annual Meeting and Email Minutes of our Board were approved.

Tom Cargo gave the financial report. Surplus funds are due to the fact that we had only two issues of our newsletter. Report was approved.

President's Report was read by Tom Cargo. Correction to the report was made concerning reason that we are not under the Brethren Historical Library and Archives which operates under the EIN of the Church of the Brethren Ministry and Mission Board. Times have changed and organizations need to be more careful about having independent organizations using their EIN. So the "historical memory" continues.

FOBG need to do more visioning. We need to ask members for more ideas of what the organization should be doing.

Constitution needs to be filed with the state and should contain the minimum basics required. Any amendments to the constitution must be filed with the state. Bi-Laws explain how the organization operates and is more detailed, but does not need to be filed with the state. Motion was made that the officers separate the Constitution and Bi-Laws. Motion carried.

Question was raised, do we need to be incorporated? What are the advantages of being a nonprofit? Need an EIN to have an organizational bank account. Donations might be tax deductible. Income would not be taxed. Incorporation may protect the officers. Cost is \$400 for filing with IRS and \$25 for filing with the Secretary of State. Motion was made authorizing the officers to put together a legal Constitution without "how to's", get an EIN, and file with the IRS for a determination letter. Amendment was made to add "incorporate in the state of Colorado." Amendment passed. Main motion passed.

Charlotte Garst was nominated as Treasurer and Susan Seese as Recording Secretary. Both were approved.

Motion was made that the treasurer establish a banking account convenient to the treasurer and that the Treasurer and the President or their successors both would be needed to sign any checks. Motion carried.

The same budget as the one in 2014 was approved for 2015. (Calendar year, perhaps this should be changed to a different year such as August 1 to July 31.) Budget was approved.

Three First Brethren Family Certificates were presented to Doris and Egge and Owen Newcomer. The ones for Egge were picked up by their friends at our booth. We will send the other one to Owen

Newcomer. (Send Owen's and make sure Egges' got theirs.)

Journal/Newsletter was discussed. Our editor, Jane Davis needs an assistant editor and perhaps a copy editor. (Ask for articles in email to membership.)

Motion was made that all members who have paid for 2014 or 2015 only receive an year of Journals/Newsletters free since we did not have the four editions this past year. Those who renewed their membership for 2015 will be counted as having paid for 2016. Motion was approved.

We have 150 members who paid for 2014, 8 paid for the first time in 2015, and 41 who renewed for 2015.

Other questions raised from the membership present:

Should we have a newsletter or a journal or both? A newsletter would have address changes, family lines being researched, queries, etc. Journal would have scholarly, researched articles. Newsletter would be sent out monthly or quarterly. Journal would be sent out semiannually. We would likely need a newsletter editor and a journal editor. This will continue to be explored.

An updated membership list needs distributed by the end of the year.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of Recording Secretary by Gerald W. Rhoades