

OHIO HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes: April 29, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Connie Conner (ex officio), Fred Previts (ex officio), Tina Ratcliff, Robin Heise, Virginia Dressler, Michelle Sweetser, Ernest Thode, Stephen Badenhop, Tami Kelly, Meghan Hays, Bill Modrow and Lisa Smilnak

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Burt Logan (ex officio), Tim Neal, Russ Pollitt

I. **Welcome**

Ratcliff called the meeting to order. She welcomed Lisa Smilnak to the board and members introduced themselves.

II. **Consent Agenda**

- a. January 28, 2022 Minutes: Heise motioned to approve and was seconded by Modrow. Minutes approved.

III. **Strategic Discussion**

- a. Membership Update: Ratcliff reported that Heise has been reappointed by the Governor's Office to another term on the board. Ratcliff added that there has not been any further word from the Governor's Office about Patrice Hamiter's pending application to join OHRAB. Ratcliff also mentioned that Tim Neal's and Russ Pollitt's terms expired and they don't wish to continue on the board. Previts will contact the Ohio Council of County Officials and the Ohio Genealogical Society about replacing them.

The board discussed the color codes on the roster. Badenhop reported that when the roster was created the colors differentiated the terms but that hasn't been maintained.

- b. OHRAB Budget: Previts reviewed the 2022 budget. He reported that the \$200 in the History Day Award has been spent. He also said that since the board met virtually in January and April that \$3,000 has been moved from the meeting expenses fund to the grantees. He added that the total awarded to the grant recipients was \$32,585 out of the \$33,000. Hays asked about the status of the rest of the grant funding and Badenhop stated that some money was left in the grant fund because a recommendation was made to

one of the grant recipients to purchase a different scanner that might cost slightly more.

- c. Committee and Organizational Updates: Ratcliff reported for the Awards Committee that there were no senior entries this year so the committee awarded two prizes in the junior category. The winning projects were a website on the Kent State shootings and an exhibit on the 1906 Hepburn Act. Ratcliff added that the deadline for the spring professional development scholarships is April 30 and there are four applications so far. She also mentioned that the announcement for nominations for the citizen archivist award will be in July.

Badenhop provided a report on the Regrant Committee. He said that there were 19 regrant applicants this year and 13 received funding and named the recipients. Badenhop shared that this was the first year reviewing draft applications and the February 25 deadline for the drafts worked for the most part with giving the committee members enough time to review the drafts and the applicants enough time to revise their applications.

Badenhop shared a couple of potential rule changes for the 2023 grant application. One is that the draft applications must include all the components of the application and not just the budget form. The other rule change is that institutions must submit their interim and final reports or it could negatively impact their future applications. The board discussed how it could ensure that the reports are submitted on time, including withholding part of the grant funding until the reports are submitted.

Badenhop also mentioned that the board should discuss its conflict of interest rule as it pertains to the regrant applicants. The board decided to include this on the July meeting agenda. Sweetser asked to be notified when she could publicize the 2022 regrant recipients.

Heise reported that the Advocacy Committee has been posting board member photos and biographies on OHRAB's Facebook page. Sweetser mentioned that the Advocacy Committee will be meeting in mid-February.

Sweetser reported on the activity calendar developed by the Advocacy Committee and the board's communication channels.

- IV. **New Business:** Previts reviewed the draft of the 2023 grant application to the NHPRC that is due June 8. He shared the changes to the fellowship program in that one student will be looking at online indexes to identify names that could be searched in the indexes. Hays asked about genealogical organizations assisting.

Heise and Previts responded that that would be the intention as the next step after this fellowship project identifies the names. Ratcliff asked about applying for funding to support this and Previts replied that it could be included in the 2024 grant application.

Modrow motioned to approve the 2023 grant budget, seconded by Kelly. All approved.

Ratcliff mentioned that two of the 2021 fellowship students will be giving a presentation on their projects on May 10 as part of the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators (NAGARA) webinar series.

The board discussed the July meeting. Kelly mentioned that she could host it in Grove City since they have the capability to have a hybrid in-person/virtual meeting. The board tentatively agreed to meet in person on July 22 and will confirm in June.

V. Closing

Modrow motioned to adjourn. Kelly seconded. All approved.