

MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
Meeting of the Board 4:00 PM, November 24, 2006
Hyatt Hotel, Dearborn

- I. Call to Order President Finger 4:07pm
- II. Roll Call Secretary LeBlanc
Kelly Finger, Joe LeBlanc, Dr. Andrew Parks, Ann Bobrofsky, Al Bobrofsky, Dany Rothfeld, Carl Tacket, Bill Summerell, Steve Friedman, Larry Sekulich, Mike Dennany, Michael Marotta, Greg Guseff, Mike Strub, Steve Marzilli (absent), Robert Lusch (absent).
- III. Introduction of visitors President Finger
- Don Bishop
 - Brian Malnar, Convention Coordinator
 - Ken Leach
 - Ray Dillard, 50th Anniversary Committee Chair
 - Brett Irick, Exhibits judge
 - Don Charters, Convention Coordinator Emeritus
 - Pat Heller, Election CPA
 - Karl Mark Paul
 - Bill Ewald, designer of our 50th Anniversary Medal
- IV. Invocation Secretary LeBlanc
- V. Minutes of Sept. 10, 2006 Secretary LeBlanc
Item 14 – exhibit should be exhibits
Section 9 officer reports last line of paragraph 1 – “...as much money as we do.” Should end Ray’s comments. Strike rest
A motion was made to approve the minutes as corrected by Mike Marotta. This was seconded by Dany Rothfeld and passed
- VI. Additions to Agenda Board
XIII New Business A: Add signers to checking account
 B: Item 2 – possible life membership rescission
X Officer Reports C: Secretary Treasurer’s Report – two pieces of correspondence
XIII New Business C: Discuss this hotel
- VII. Approve Agenda Board
Mike Marotta moved, and Carl Tackett seconded, motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.
- VIII. Member Comments President Finger
Don Charters commended his protégé and successor, Brian Malnar, for doing a good job.
Scouting merit badge program comments: We noted that all scouts are eligible to attend.
Dan Freeland’s mother passed away, and the funeral is Saturday, so he and his wife Kathy are not here.
A moment of silence was asked for Florence Schook at our Sunday breakfast.
- IX. Board Member Absences Secretary LeBlanc
Board member absences were not reported because with a lame duck board, the issue is moot.
- X. Officer Reports
- A. President President Finger no report
 - B. Vice President Ann Bobrofsky no report
 - C. Secretary-Treasurer Secretary LeBlanc
- 1. Correspondence:
 - a. Wanda and Richard VanKersen wrote the board to say that they wish us the best but are too ill to attend the banquet.

- b. A representative of the new Cherryland coin club thanked us for listing their show on our website and in our publication. They also offered us a table at their local show in the Traverse City area. If we have an MSNS representative interested, we ask them to represent us there.
2. Review Current Financials
 - a. Regular Funds:

Our checking account has \$56,000 – probably to drop \$20-\$25,000 after current expenses. Potentially we may wish to buy another CD –LeBlanc asked the board for permission to do this, as long as it is prudent. Hearing no objections, President Finger instructed Joe to do so.
 - b. Life/Trust Funds:

CD \$25K 5% Matures, March 07 – “Life Funds”
 CD \$30K 5% Matures, April 07 – “Trust Funds”
 Savings Account balance of \$11,500 contains Life funds as well.
 - c. LeBlanc is concerned we don’t build up our balance too far and threaten our non-profit position. He also concerned we don’t put more than \$100,000 in one financial institution
 3. Membership Report Secretary LeBlanc
 - a. Member Totals

We have, as of 11/08/06: 512 regular, 20 honorary life, and 465 regular life, 41 junior and 23 club, for a total of 1061 members. This includes 7 foreign memberships – 6 in Canada, and 1 life member in England.
 - b. Ray Harp – Life Applicant. No complaints have been received. **Therefore Dany Rothfeld moved that Ray Harp be admitted to Life Membership in the Michigan State Numismatic Society. Steve Friedman seconded this motion, which passed unanimously.**
 4. 2006 Budget Secretary LeBlanc

All board members have received copies. This is a work in process. There were no comments.
 5. Budget Fall 2006 Secretary LeBlanc

All board members have received copies. This is a work in process. There were no substantive comments.
 6. Property Report Secretary LeBlanc

We now have 200 50th Anniv medals and most of the redbooks – but of course, most will be disbursed very soon.
 Bill Summerell stated that he has fixed broken cases and lamps. We don’t need more cases, as we have 24 extras left in storage, and did not even use all that we brought. A few more latches broke this time, and we lost one key.
 7. Insurance Renewal Secretary LeBlanc
 - a. Errors/Omissions Policy 2005 \$930
 - b. Liability 2005 \$501
 - c. Bond 2005 \$234
 - d. Based on above policies and premium amounts for last year, LeBlanc asked Board approval of renewal of all 3 policies. Frank Passic asked if we are covered for losses of exhibit items at conventions. President Finger replied that the security company we hire is bonded, thus responsible. Frank felt we need a lawyer to write the text of the exemption we claim from responsibility for exhibits. Kelly asked Frank to work with Steve Bieda. Larry Swisher asked if we shop these around. Secretary LeBlanc said we did so in the last few years.
 - e. **Mike Marotta moved that we accept the insurance renewals now due.** But at the next board meeting we need a report of the names of the agents, underwriters, carriers, costs of policies, and liability limits. We also want to know how much the hotel covers, and assurance that they are primary. **Mike Denanny seconded Mike Marotta’s motion and it was passed.**
 8. Storage Yard Renewal 2005 \$1260
 - a. It is the opinion of our case chairman, Bill Summerell, that we have a good arrangement. Secretary LeBlanc asked for approval of renewal, including any reasonable increase that may be charged by the storage company. **Mike Dennany moved that we approve renewal and any reasonable increase of our annual storage yard space rental. Carl Tackett seconded the motion and it was passed.**

XI. Election

Pat Heller reported to us the results of the election. 905 ballots needed to be mailed, for which we had instructions not to contact one. Of the 904 remaining, 26 either had no mailing addresses nor could have one ascertained for them. Therefore 878 ballots were mailed

5 ballots were returned as undeliverable. 344 were received properly in correct envelope, of which 341 were postmarked by or on 11/4/06 – defined as “on time”. 1 of the 341 on-time ballots was posted with a note that the member

had died. The remaining 340 ballots all were correctly voted, meaning that no one voted for both Presidential candidates, and there were no other contested races.

Voting totals were as follows: President Kelly was re-elected with 230 votes. Challenger Mike Marotta had received 93 votes in his losing bid to unseat the incumbent President. Ann Bobrofsky was re-elected Vice-President with 289 votes.

The elected directors, comprising all who ran for seats, received the following numbers of votes: Larry Swisher 219, Mike Dennany 217, Dany Rothfeld 208, Carl Tackett 208, Mike Strub 199, Larry Sekulich 197, Julie Wostyn 193, Greg Guseff 187, Tom Klunzinger 178, Wayne Hall 176, Kenneth Leach 176, and Robert Lusch 176.

Write-in candidates who were not elected received the following numbers of votes: Dr. Andrew Parks 2, Past President Al Bobrofsky 1, Richard Luther 1.

XII. Old Business

A. Code of Ethics Mike Marotta

Mike has already sent email to all board members with the text of his proposed code of ethics, including changes made to meet earlier objections. Mike is asking for approval from the board. **Carl Tackett moved, and Stephen Friedman seconded, a motion to accept this code of ethics for MSNS.**

Secretary LeBlanc said dealers will need notice, so it should be made effective, if passed, as of May 2007 since bourse applications are already out for the spring show. Carl and Stephen accepted the amendment. The board voted and the motion passed unanimously. President Finger congratulated and thanked Mike Marotta for his hard work to bring this forward over the last year.

B. Dealer Table Placement President Finger

There was a problem at this show – concerning a new board member – but it has been resolved – and that is confirmed by him.

C. Schlag Memorial Update Past President Al Bobrofsky

The memorial has been placed – see pictures in the MichMatist. Balance in the fund is \$677.90. 20 sets of Schlag’s original design nickels are supposed to be delivered to Al this weekend. 11 have been ordered thus far at \$150/set.

D. Webmaster Mike Marotta

Mike asked to be appointed to the webmaster position. Secretary LeBlanc offered that the current webmaster has not been as responsive as should be. Mike pointed out that she did an excellent overall web designs for us, but he has been dismayed at the slow responsiveness to changes, especially for dealer ads. Carl Tackett moved, and Mike Strub seconded, a motion that President Finger be directed to appoint Mike Marotta. Since this is an appointment, Kelly will discuss this issue privately with Mike Marotta and Tracy Tabor, and make his recommendations to the new board next year. Mike Dennany suggested that we should emulate the Illinois Numismatic Society’s website.

E. Briggs Payment Secretary LeBlanc

Secretary LeBlanc reports that the accounts receivable issue with Larry Briggs has been resolved.

F. Fall 2007 Co-Host Secretary LeBlanc

As of this moment we have no co-hosts for this show.

Ken Leach asked that the Royal Oak club be named a co-host for the Fall 2007 show. LeBlanc’s records show that the last Royal Oak hosting was fall of 2004, so they are eligible. Finger asked if LeBlanc has correspondence from other clubs also interested in assisting. Lincoln and DownRiver’s representatives said they’d be willing to assist if no other club steps forward to share this burden with Royal Oak, knowing that we’d simultaneously need to change the once-every-three-year-maximum frequency of participation. **Dr. Parks moved, and Mike Marotta seconded, that we accept Royal Oak’s proposal to both host and receive a full share of the payment for the Fall 2007 show – and that we add both Lincoln and DownRiver clubs as assistants that shall receive half shares for the Fall 2007 show – and that we further suspend the rule against too-often volunteering by a club for this show only. Approval was unanimous.**

Mike Marotta moved that we set up a rotation of clubs that makes volunteering compulsory, and asks clubs to bow out of the rotation rather than put their names forward. There was no second. Finger asked that the convention coordinator work on this, and that our secretary-treasurer correspond more with all the clubs, to let them know that they have this opportunity. Greg Guseff offered that many clubs feel that the MSNS board needs to be going out to these clubs and saying “Hi!”

G. 501c7 Change Secretary LeBlanc

At the last board meeting, we began procedures to move from 501c7 to 501c3 status. At that time, the IRS fee was, we believed, \$500. We figured also that Jack Huggins would, for \$250-\$300, assist with the paperwork. So we had approved \$800. But Huggins says that the IRS has now upped their fee by \$250. So LeBlanc asks for an additional \$300 to proceed. We also already have a very large document from Jack Huggins prepared for us to approve the filing of. We were to discuss this at this board meeting, but Huggins is ill and unable to attend, so it will be done later. **Mike Marotta moved, and Dr. Parks seconded, a motion that an additional \$300 be**

approved to carry forward the filing process, and that the board see the (already submitted) application at the next board meeting. Finger said that after reviewing the document himself, he would appoint a committee if necessary. Such committee would be Kelly, Ann, Joe, and Jack Huggins, plus anyone who expresses an interest, up to and including all board members. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

XIII. New Business

- A. Signer to checking account Secretary LeBlanc
Currently checks under \$200 require only one signer; for amounts over that, 2 signers are required. Signers are President Finger, Vice President Ann Bobrofsky, Secretary Joe LeBlanc, and Don Charters. LeBlanc asked that Don Charters be dropped, and Brian Malnar be added. **Mike Dennany moved that Don Charters be dropped, and Bryan Malnar added, to the list of authorized signers of MSNS checks. Stephen Friedman seconded the motion and it passed.**
- B. Life Member Rescission Secretary LeBlanc
We have a dealer who, as a life member, asked verbally to be removed from membership rolls. Since he has not put in writing, and is not present, this item is dropped at this time.
- C. Hotel Mike Denanny
Mike Denanny feels we need to start looking at other hotels, as a better negotiating tool. Rooms for next fall are, with discount, going to cost \$118. Hotwire would charge \$60+. Bryan Malnar said that, although the Hyatt learned this was happening and shut it down; MSNS was credited for the rooms reserved by hotwire, so more power to everyone who succeeds in doing this. Several members commented on the high price of rooms at this hotel, and suggested a hotel in Novi that they felt would be cheaper. Several others said that there are hidden fees that change the equation. Kelly referred those discussing these issues to the convention committee. Joe said that he thought that there seems to be a consensus among board members that our next contract should have the club pay a little more if it can be balanced with a break on the room rates.
- D. Joe Boling requests club support – a nomination – to run for ANA governor – from MSNS. **Larry Sekulich moved, and Mike Dennany seconded, a motion that MSNS nominate Joe Bolling to be a candidate for ANA governor, which motion passed.** Larry Sekulich will provide forms to be signed and inform Joe Boling.
- E. **Dr. Parks and Carl Tackett moved that we give silver medals to all current and new board members, plus Bryan Malnar, Frank Passic, Rita Jean, Marge Stroshine, and Ray Dillard. There were 8 yes and 3 no votes, so the motion Carried.**

XIV. Committee Reports

- A. Anniversary President Finger
Ray Dillard stated that we have reservations for 175 attendees for dinner. He added that the dinners will be prime rib, fish, or chicken. All attendees will receive a commemorative Redbook, as did each dealer table. 48 of these Redbooks were signed by Ken Bressett and returned to us. 48 others that were sent for signing were lost in two separate mailing incidents. Autographed Redbooks will also be distributed to current board members and members-elect at this meeting. Also, these books will be available at MSNS table for a donation; Ray suggests that the donation be at least \$20. Secretary LeBlanc passed a copy to be donated to the ANA, and asked that all board members sign it. As for the elongated coins, Ray has rolled 4000 nickels to be given away. 400 Michigan Quarters were rolled to be given away at banquet. Ray also mentioned that he had other coins rolled with the commemorative design, for sale at his table.
Dr. Andrew Parks stated that the commemorative medals have been minted, numbering 200, all in silver thus far. For those interested in gold, because of the set-up charge, we'd like to pool the orders sometime before the end of the year. The designer of the medal, Bill Ewald, stood and introduced himself. Dr. Parks apologized that his initials were omitted from the design. However, Bill will receive \$50 and a ticket to the Sunday banquet for his talents.
Past President Al Bobrofsky thanked Carl Tackett for printing the tickets to the banquet. The brochures for the banquet will feature a history of the organization's founding.
Ray Dillard thanked those who donated a total of over \$5,000 toward the banquet. This and the ticket sales will virtually pay for it in its entirety. Therefore we can afford to pass out a few tickets to dignitaries. Ray was sorry that two clubs had not donated, but then was informed that one of those clubs had donated, but they asked that the funds go to education rather than the banquet.
President Finger commended Ray for his organizational efforts
- B. Exhibits Passic
Chief judge Jack Huggins could not come. We now will get Bill Horton, here from the ANA. The judging seminar today had 15 people, and was a big success; at 9am tomorrow there will be another seminar. We'd like to give appreciation awards to Joe Bolling and Bill Horton – perhaps gift certificates to a restaurant. Also, we will poll exhibitors to see if they like our new arrangements and ability to set up at more times than in the past.

Finally, we've budgeted \$3000 for exhibits, plus we got \$800 in donations. But exhibit awards cost rose over \$3000 due to rising gold costs. Donations have solved this problem.

Dr. Parks moved that \$100 certificates of the exhibit committee's choosing be given to Joe Bolling and Bill Horton. Mike Strub seconded the motion which passed.

C. Auctions Bill Summerell

A visitor from Bowers and Merena has suggested that they may have an interest in being our auctioneer; Bill Summerell and Stephen Friedman will follow up. Craig Whitford's contract ends with the current show. Craig has also mentioned that he probably will not continue past this show. Craig Palmer has suggested he may have an interest.

D. Past Presidents Al Bobrofsky No report

E. MichMatist Parks

Things are going excellently. Articles are clear. People like the larger format. Ken Potter likes the look now, wants to start back to writing for us – Mike Strub will approach him about contributing articles to the MichMatist again.

East Detroit and Warren clubs to be dropped from club meeting information for next issue.

F. Publicity Marotta

Larry Sekulich said: Our web address should be included in all of our MSNS advertisements. Kelly referred him to the publicity chair.

G. Membership Sekulich

Secretary LeBlanc: When heirs of Florence Schook were closing her estate, he went to get MSNS belongings and donations.. We are giving Coin World Almanacs from the estate to new members, so that has got us 25 new members at this show.

H. Conv. Manual Past President Al Bobrofsky

When the new board convenes, we'll have a new convention manual

I. Conv. Committee Past President Al Bobrofsky No report

J. Finance Review – Audit Vice President Ann Bobrofsky

Ann reviewed our form 990 for 2005 and everything is in order.

XV. Committee Appointments

None

Secretary LeBlanc still has tickets for the banquet – 30 left. Sell these! And invite all to come hear the DJ and dance at 8pm Saturday.

Secretary LeBlanc needs contact information from new board members. He also needs jackets back from outgoing board members.

President Finger thanked all board members who have served these last two years.

XVI. Board Member Comments

Larry Sekulich – please sign the petition for Joe Boling to run for the ANA Board of Governors.

Mike Dennany – communications have improved over these last few years.

Stephen Friedman – had a good time, would like to be considered for future openings.

Dr. Parks – thanked all for their hard work. Will remain active and be on any committees asked.

Bill Summerell – been on for 6 years. Things have gotten better, everyone has worked hard. Interested in continuing board committees.

XVII. General Membership Comments none

XVIII. Adjourn Dany Rothfeld moved, and Carl Tackett seconded, a motion to adjourn – which passed at 6:32pm.