

MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY

Meeting of the Board 4 PM, Sept. 14, 2008

Owosso country Club, Owosso, Michigan

- I. Call to Order Bobrofsky 4:12pm
- II. Roll Call LeBlanc
Present: Ann Bobrofsky, Joe LeBlanc, Mike Dennany, Stephen Friedman, Greg Gusseff, Karl Mark Pall, Dr. Parks, Dany Rothfeld, Larry Sekulich, Mike Strub, Julianna Wostyn, Tom Klunzinger (arrive 4:20, left 6:00)
Absent: Larry Swisher, Kelly Finger, Kenneth Leach, Robert Lusch, and Legal Counsel Ron Sirna
- III. Introduction of visitors Bobrofsky
Brian Malnar, Bill Summerell, Kathy and Dan Freeland, Al Bobrofsky, Don Chandler, John Chirco, Mary Dennany, Roseanne Parks.
- IV. Invocation LeBlanc
It was noted that past President Craig Whitford was in an auto accident. Our prayers are with him.
- V. Minutes of April 13, 2008 LeBlanc
Mike Dennany:
p.2 article X – After “Mike Strub seconded.”, add that Director Dennany feels this would be good PR for MSNS. And: XIII G. first line replace “Detroit Coin Club” with “MSNS Member Coin Club”
- Pall moved and Wostyn seconded a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Approved.**
- VI. Additions to Agenda Board
LeBlanc: XI. C. 1. a. Correspondence
LeBlanc: XII. G. IRS form 990 2007 tax return
Klunzinger: XIII. I. change reference to pay to non-pay-type statement
Friedman: XIII. J. Bourse Rules & Ethics
Dennany: XII. H. Board Meeting Times
- VII. Approve Agenda Board
Klunzinger moved, and Pall seconded, a motion to approve the amended agenda. Approved.
- VIII. Director Absences LeBlanc
No reason to address absences as this is a lame duck board. Board Agreed.
- IX. Appointments (If Any) Bobrofsky NONE
- X. Membership Comments Bobrofsky NONE
- XI. Officer Reports
- A. President Bobrofsky
Selection of meeting location was based on proximity to Owosso Schlag cemetery ceremony.
Late-minute change was based on unfair contractual efforts on part of original restaurant – e.g. demanding we take personal responsibility for damages, decoration charges, blanket fees for food, etc.
- B. Vice President Swisher NONE
- C. Secretary-Treasurer LeBlanc
1. Review Current Financials
- a. Regular: CD \$15K 3% Matures 04/09, CD \$12.5K 2.7% Matures 09/08, Checking Account (Aug. 08) \$10,100 approximately.
- b. Life : CD \$25K 2.7% Matures 09/08, CD \$15K 4% Matures 09/09, CD \$10K 4% Matures 08/09, CD \$50K 5% Matures 09/08, Savings Account \$1000
- c. Cash Reserve: CD \$10K 5% Matures 09/08
- d. Pruchnicki Trust: New Liberty Bank CD 2.7 % Matures 12/08 \$8850. Amount will decline per amount of exhibit awards spent for November show.
2. Membership Report
Correspondence –
Rep Steve Bieda donated a VCR tape to us.
Michael Marotta congratulates MSNS & Michmatist on ANA award.
Max Boettger, secy of Northern Michigan Coin & Stamp club thanked us for copies of MichMatist at their show.

Monroe County Historical Museum's Lynn Reaume thanked us for donation for having viewed their facilities in April.

ANA thanked us for \$250 donation approved last April.

a. Member Totals

608 regular, 18 honorary life, 462 paid life members, 68 juniors, 24 clubs (increase of 1) – total 1180. Also 6 libraries / editors.

We Lost Harriet Vanderbost, an early Honorary Life member.

b. New Club – Michigan Treasure Hunters Association – about 200 members – very thirsty for numismatic knowledge. They've unofficially described interest in hosting an MSNS show in the future. They meet in Livonia, but consider their region to be Southeast Michigan. Bill Summerell says their typical meetings are 150 members strong. **Friedman moved and Klunzinger seconded a motion to accept them to membership. Approved.**

3. Property Report

a. Beida Donation - VHS tape, about the MI Quarter, that Representative Steve Bieda produced or helped produce, has been added to our tape library.

b. Krause Donation - 3 reference manuals: Dr. Lee's paper money book, two hard cover catalogs on paper money.

4. Spring 2008 Report – refer to mailed spreadsheet of this budget. Spring convention profited approx. \$4600 rather than the budgeted loss of \$2600. **Pall moved and Friedman seconded a motion to accept. Approved.**

5. Fall 08 Budget – refer to mailed spreadsheet of proposed budget. Proposes \$16,400 profit. **Klunzinger moved and Friedman seconded a motion to approve this budget. Approved.** Klunzinger noted that gold has declined, and was told we haven't bought exhibit awards yet for the fall.

6. 2008 Budget – refer to mailed spreadsheet. This is in process because most activity will occur in November.

7. Raffle Prize Unclaimed – Spring show 2nd prize ticket had no ID on it. A half-ounce of gold lies behind it. It has been published in the MichMatist, clubs have been informed, and internet website contains a notice. Pall moved, and Wostyn seconded that if the prize is not claimed in 1 year that it reverts to MSNS. **Sekulich moved, and Rothfeld seconded, a motion to table. Approved.** Tabled to November meeting. Tabled for time to research raffle law.

XII. Old Business

A. Schlag Memorial Update

Al Bobrofsky

Felix's daughter, 2 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren among the relatives that came to the ceremony today. 20 additional sets of Proof and Uncirculated "Nickels" following his original design; specially encapsulated for the occasion of the dedication of the memorial, they were accompanied by cards signed by Hilda Schlag Hein, his daughter to raise more money for an additional Michigan State historical marker also to be placed on the site. All coin sets were sold, except 1 was given to Hilda. The family bought 6 sets. A state representative is also a board member of the cemetery, and will work with us to get the Michigan Historical Society marker placed there as well, since Rep. Steve Bieda is term-limited out of office.

B. 501 © 7 Change Status

LeBlanc

1. IRS – Received approval we are a 501c3 organization. Further correspondence after April meeting led to our approval in May or June. But the approval was back-dated to January 2007..

2. Sales Tax – Due to our new status, the Hyatt has already refunded us tax paid in April 2008 of \$700-\$800, but LeBlanc will try to get it back from them for 2007 if possible as well.

A concern was raised, by Friedman about IRS anti-money-laundering advice which impacts dealers buying or selling \$50k or more per year from or to the public, and which may impact associated organizations. This was referred to legal counsel.

3. Non Profit Mailings

First class mailings are not effected, but under the printer's permit, we get a non-profit rate now for mailing the MichMatist. The last mailing of the MichMatist required us to pay more, but we will be receiving a

refund from the post office. The new mailing cost of MichMatist is around half of what it was before. Pall said we can do first class mailings at a discount if we pre-sort zips. LeBlanc said we don't have the quantity necessary.

C. Election Status LeBlanc

Bios have been published in MichMatist. Ballots have been prepared, including optional questionnaire, and stuffed. Return address is Pat Heller's. Outgoing postage is paid by MSNS, using the "forever" stamps at the old rate before the rate hike. Pat Heller will audit the yet-unsealed envelopes to be sure their content is correct.

D. USPS-Klunzinger Wostyn

Board received copies of the USPS form dated July 15, 2008. Wostyn asked that legal counsel review.

E. Mich-Tams Co-Host Request LeBlanc

Mich-TAMS requested in writing and verbally to host an upcoming show. The Board accidentally omitted a show award to them, though they need it very much. LeBlanc noted that the awards for Spring 2009 and 2010 are complete, but the club could afford to award an additional co-host fee without reducing the amount paid to current club awardees. K. Freeland countered that they only need a half-co-host-fee, and their worker contribution would be commensurate. Al Bobrofsky said that Battle Creek had already said they'd share their fee. **Klunzinger moved and Parks seconded that as co-hosts of the Spring 2009 show, Paper Money and MichTams will get \$1250 each, and Battle Creek receive \$2500. Approved.**

F. ANA Donation Status LeBlanc

LeBlanc reports that our donation to the ANA of \$250 was sent and received. It made us a convention patron in Baltimore.

G. IRS form 990 LeBlanc

Because our status change is retroactive, we need to fill out a form for our 501c3 status for 2007. Jack Huggins has a copy, and will assist us in filling it out.

H. Board Meeting timing Dennany

CSNS has adopted a policy that board meetings are before or after, but not during, bourse hours. This should be our policy, so bourse dealers who are board members can adequately participate. Klunzinger moved that next board meeting start at 7pm on Saturday November 29, with dinner included. Mike Strub seconded. Al Bobrofsky noted that the membership must be invited. Wostyn said the constitution forbids that a motion be made on this, as the President holds this determinative power. Pall asked for a poll of members who could attend.

A sense of the board, advisory motion by Klunzinger and seconded by Strub was made that the board meeting be on Friday night 11/28 at 7pm, including dinner provided by the club. Passed except for two Nays: Pall and Wostyn.

XIII. New Business

A. Education Book for Members LeBlanc

1. Existing Redbooks from 07 (dated 2008)

Most renewing members want an exotic book, not a coin price guide. LeBlanc still has approx. 60 of the 2008-titled coin price books left which will not be a useful membership incentive. LeBlanc would like to disperse these books to member clubs and the YN program in order to get rid of them; including mailing some to clubs. **Pall moved, and Friedman seconded, a motion to support LeBlanc's effort to disperse the existing books. Approved.**

At the Suburban Detroit Coin Show this weekend, we did give some of the books as membership incentives (13 adults, 1 junior) and Wostyn and Sekulich manned the table for us.

Wostyn recommended that member clubs be told the books they may receive are for their YN programs. However, this will be left to the recipients' discretion.

2. New incentive for 2008

LeBlanc asked the board to allocate \$4500 for a 2009 educational promotion for new members and renewals. Some board objected to giving books to renewing members. LeBlanc then asked the board to allocate \$1000 for new members. **Friedman moved and Strub seconded a motion that up to \$1500 be expended for new members to receive a book at the convention. Motion carried.**

Wostyn moved and Strub seconded a motion that up to \$3500 be expended for renewing members to also receive books. Carried.

B. Spring 09 Bourse Fee LeBlanc

What to set bourse fee for Spring 2009? **Friedman moved and Strub seconded a motion to set the fee to \$300 for Spring 2009. Vote carried 5 to 4.**

C. MichMatist Set offer to buy LeBlanc

LeBlanc stated that MSNS should not sell MichMatists to a person attempting to buy them.

Pall wants agenda item at the next board meeting to ask Klunzinger what became of his complete set of MichMatists accepted from Al Bobrofsky on behalf of the club.

D. Auction Fall 08 Promo LeBlanc

The auction is not yet healthy enough. LeBlanc suggests we pay postage to mail out catalogs, and to pay the 16 \$50 vouchers to auction attendees as at the last convention. **Pall moved and Friedman seconded a motion that for Fall auction in 2008 we allocate up to \$2000 to promote the auction. At Sekulich's suggestion, Pall amended that this would be in exchange for SilverTowne improving the quality of their auction catalog. Passed.**

Steve Davis is taking over the coin auction business from Craig Whitford, according to Al Bobrofsky.

Strub moved and Pall seconded a motion to change the promotional voucher amount to \$30 and exclude board members. Passed.

E. ANA Traveling Seminar LeBlanc

ANA is willing to send an educator to our show if we pay for room and per diem. They suggest reduced tuition rates for ANA members and club members. LeBlanc will try to get a sense of the number of potentially interested members.. Wostyn moved and Parks seconded a motion that LeBlanc do further research and present findings in November. Passed. Malnar said an extra room during the show could be free, but doesn't know what it would cost during a non-show days.

F. CSNS matches SumSem donations LeBlanc

CSNS is matching donations of member clubs. They also will give any member club 5 free DVDs. Other titles from their 100 to choose from are \$10 apiece. We will consider getting a room at the conventions where there is a continuously running DVD from this set.

CSNS also is matching moneys toward donation of books to libraries at \$500 per our \$100.

G. Raffle License LeBlanc

State of MI changed their licensing laws. For Fall show we were turned down. Because we're falsely considered subordinate to the ANA. To qualify, we now must meet 7 points. 4 we've met already. 3 we gave not: 1) Listing of all individuals who have received money from us (e.g. editor's pay, etc.). 2) We also must change constitution: non-profit for eternity. 3) From local government a resolution that we are a recognized non-profit educational association that is a benefit to the community. But this last exposes us to a potential tax demand by the community from which we request it. The raffle is a wash for us financially. Therefore LeBlanc suggests we drop the raffle. **Pall moved and Strub seconded a motion that we drop the raffle. Motion cancelled because it is unnecessary – we simply won't try to overcome this roadlock.**

H. Honorary Membership – KP LeBlanc

Ken Potter, already a life member, is suffering poor health. **Friedman moved and Ann Bobrofsky seconded a motion that he also be awarded an honorary life membership. Passed.**

I. Board pay/mileage LeBlanc

Constitution says board shall not be paid. But the board can be reimbursed for mileage. Some good candidates for the board couldn't afford gasoline. LeBlanc asks that the board recognize this problem, and take a position that no member who requests mileage reimbursal will be chastised. LeBlanc will develop a form for board members to request reimbursement.

J. Bourse Rules / Ethics. Friedman

An active customer came to the last show offering to sell 1800's proof sets. After getting prices, he returned to the show and couldn't find his selected dealer. A non-dealer member at the last show took the coins on commission and had them certified and submitted to an auction, and took a commission. This is very disturbing, and Friedman wants the non-dealer member in question to respond to this.

In defense, this same non-dealer member wasn't told that the sets had been offered to any other dealer. And it happened after the show had closed – after 4pm. To be discussed with that non-dealer member at the next show / board meeting.

XIV. Committee Reports

A. Exhibit Passic Jack Huggins will be chief judge again.

B. Auctions Summerell

We got \$2317 in commissions from previous auction.

C. Past Presidents Al Bobrofsky NONE

D. Mich-Matist Parks

We got the second place regional publication award from the ANA, surprised it wasn't first place. Let's add a list of shows, commercial and club, to the MichMatist.

E. Publicity Open

We need to do a lot more publicity, says Parks. Summerell wants a TV station to come to our show. LeBlanc cited Marotta press releases as good ideas.

F. Membership Sekulich

Free book educational promotion working great. **Strub moved, and Pall seconded a motion that Early bird entry be free to MSNS members who present their card between 9am and 10am on Friday of Fall 2008 show. Notice shall also be posted in the MichMatist. Passed.**

G. Conv. Manual Al Bobrofsky

Al Bobrofsky is finally giving up on getting back what he sent to Kelly Finger. The committee is Brian Malnar, Bill Summerell, Al Bobrofsky, and Don Charters.

H. Conv. Committee Al Bobrofsky NONE

I. Finance Review – Audit Leach NONE

J. Communication Clubs Membership Wostyn

Chuck Sharpe membership table offer to MSNS at his Detroit Suburban Coin Show will repeat ad infinitum – Bill Summerell, Larry Sekulich, Julianna Wostyn will man the table at his January show.

Wostyn is hearing that some members are negative about the current board. As this is an extreme exaggeration of the actual state of affairs, she wants the board to be more cohesive in its public statements to give a more accurate and positive impression.

Wants a section in the MichMatist about member concerns. Title it F.Y.I.

People have told her this board is very divisive East vs. West. The current board voiced that they don't feel this is so.

XV. Committee Appointments NONE

XVI. Board Member Comments

Pall: To our incoming president, he offers this suggestion: review committees and appoint some brand new ones, refresh them. We need a dealers' committee. New president could serve as chairman. We need an appraisal room where dealers serve an hour apiece gratis for the public.

XVII. General Membership Comments NONE

XVIII. Adjourn **Rothfeld moved, and Sekulich seconded, a motion to adjourn. Passed at 8:07.**