

MICHIGAN STATE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
Meeting of the Board 7 PM, Nov. 28, 2008
Hyatt Regency, Dearborn

- I. Call to Order Bobrofsky 7:03
- II. Roll Call LeBlanc
Present: Ann Bobrofsky, Larry Swisher, Joe LeBlanc, Steve Friedman, Greg Gusseff, Tom Klunzinger, Kenneth Leach, Karl Mark Pall, Dr. Andrew Parks, Dany Rothfeld, Larry Sekulich, Mike Strub, Julianna Wostyn, Ron Sirna
Absent: Kelly Finger, Robert Lusch, Mike Dennany.
- III. Introduction of visitors Bobrofsky
Brett Irick, Ron Gamil, Clifford Mischler, Ray Dillard, Brian Malnar, Pat Heller, Kathy Freeland, Dan Freeland, Mike Marotta, Frank Passic, Dr. John Chirco, Don Chandler David Henderson, Paul Leonard
- IV. Invocation LeBlanc
- V. Minutes of Sept. 14, 2008 LeBlanc
Klunzinger moved and Pall seconded a motion to approve, which carried.
- VI. Additions to Agenda Board
Additions X member comments: insert B. Proposal to handle an election tie
XIII Old business: n Raffle
XIV New business: i ANA nominations
XV Committee Reports: j mini-convention
DROPS XIII Old business: i grievance
XIV New business: g survey results
- VII. Approve Agenda Board
Klunzinger moved, unknown second, but all approved.
- VIII. Director Absences LeBlanc
The report was dropped due to the lame duck board. However, it was noted that director Lusch had a doctor's appointment and the Dennany's were in an auto accident
- IX. Appointments (None) Bobrofsky
- X. Membership Comments Bobrofsky
A. Ray Dillard: As a representative of MSNS, Ray accepted the ANA's second place award for the MichMatist.
Paul Leonard proposed that the Michigan Treasure Hunters Club co-host the Fall 2009 convention. Theirs is a 35 year old club with 200 members, about 150 of whom are currently active. Membership numbers apply to entire families. Their last meeting had 120 attendees though typical attendance is 75-90. They can easily supply 50 people to a convention as helpers.

B. Election Tie Proposal

LeBlanc

LeBlanc stated that we need a procedure to handle an election tie. Legal counsel Sirna suggested that we resolve by a draw, per Michigan Election Law precedent. Two unmarked identical envelopes are created. One contains the message “Elected” and the other the message “Unelected.” The tied candidates then select the envelopes and open them. Either both candidates are to be present, or a proxy may act on behalf of either or both. **Klunzinger moved, and Pall supported, a motion that this method be adopted, which motion carried.**

XI. Election Results

Heller

Election results: Of over 900 ballots mailed out, 334 were received, 333 on time. 2 came in the wrong envelope and were not counted. 5 had only the survey. Of the 328 left, 1 ballot picked more than 12 board candidates and was not counted; 10 cast votes for all 3 Ingham county board candidates and were not counted; 6 cast votes for all 3 Wayne county board candidates and were not counted. Because the voting was very close on the 11th through 15th place board candidates, these were 100% re-counted.

Dr. Parks was elected President with 283 votes. Chuck Fenwick was the write-in candidate with 3 votes; Al Bobrofsky and Roseanne Parks each received 1 write-in vote.

Al Bobrofsky was elected Vice President with 289 votes.

The board members elected were as follows: Chuck Fenwick 200, Mike Strub 196, Dan Freeland 195, Mike Dennany 189, Julianna Wostyn 180, Donald Chandler 157, Karl Mark Pall 152, Dany Rothfeld 150, Robert Lusch 141, Stephen Friedman 139, Dr. John Chirco 133,

And a tie for 12th place between David Henderson and Larry Sekulich at 130 each.

Not elected: Tom Klunzinger 128, Robert Sebenick 126, Greg Guseff 107, Brett Irick 85

Heller explained that the late ballot wouldn't have settled the tie.

Klunzinger moved, and Parks seconded, a motion to accept the ballot results, which passed.

Then Sekulich and Henderson drew envelopes to resolve the tie. Sekulich drew “Not Elected,” and Henderson drew “Elected.” **David Henderson was thus elected to the board.**

XII. Officer Reports

A. President

Bobrofsky

None, except we only have the room until 10pm

B. Vice President

Swisher

Larry Swisher apologized for his absence due to medical problems, and thanked all for their support.

C. Secretary-Treasurer

LeBlanc

1. Review Current Financials

- a. Regular CD \$15K 3% Matures 04/09, CD \$12.5K 1.4% Matures 12/08, Checking Account (Nov. 08) \$34400 appx.
 - b. Life CD \$25K 4.0% Matures Nov. 09, CD \$15K 4% Matures Sept 09
CD \$10K 4% Matures Aug. 09, CD \$50K 4.1% Matures Mar. 10
Savings Account \$1000. 2 pending new life memberships
pending will cause increase in the life membership fund.
 - c. Cash Reserve CD \$10K 3.5% Matures 02/09
 - d. Pruchnicki CD
New Liberty Bank CD 2.7 % Matures Dec. 08 \$8850.
Exhibit awards will continue to diminish this balance.
2. Membership Report: 650 regular, 19 honorary life now including Ken Potter, 461 paid life, 71 juniors, 24 clubs, 6 libraries and publication editors. Excluding libraries, 1225 total members.
3. Property Report
No major changes. Approx. 50 50th anniv medals, being sold for \$15 at this time. Cases and lamps the same.
4. Fall 08 Report We sold more tables than last Fall.
5. 2008 Report
Most of our activity occurs at the Fall convention, so not ready to report. Whereas we projected a Spring loss this year, we made a profit instead. Our MichMatist costs are over budget, but due to higher quality and to higher numbers being printed. We will be in the black for this convention, but may run a deficit for year.
6. Request Review
LeBlanc requests an audit of his records in January or February, to be appointed by new board.

Pall moved to accept and file these reports of the two officers and our Secretary Treasurer. Parks seconded. Motion carried.

XIII. Old Business

A. Schlag Memorial Update Al Bobrofsky
We had dedication on Sept 14 in the pouring rain. It was nice to see board members. The Schlag family – youngest daughter and several grandchildren and great grandchildren – were present. Special medals were struck and dedicated, sold for \$100, cost \$60 apiece. We now have \$2871.06.
The cost was over \$4000 for the marker and dedication. We'll be sold 30 more sets by the Full Step Nickel Club at a cost of \$90 apiece, and will re-sell them for \$150 apiece. The sets will feature a picture of Felix Schlag. Contributors to this project will all have received certificates soon through Steven Bieda's office.

Bobrofsky corrected editor Strub regarding his article in the MichMatist, noting that the Flint Flying Eagle Coin Club also was responsible for getting the initials FS added to the nickel. Additionally, the most famous son of Owosso is probably Thomas Dewey – making Schlag the second most famous!

B. Insurance coverage LeBlanc

1. E/O Renewal request up to \$1100.

Parks moved, Klunzinger seconded, motion passed.

2. Liability renewal request up to \$700.

Klunzinger moved, Parks seconded, passed.

3. Bond renewal request up to \$350. **Klunzinger moved, Pall seconded, passed.**

C. Storage Yard Renewal LeBlanc

Leblanc asked up to \$1300 to renew. **Klunzinger moved, Pall seconded, passed.**

D. Set Mileage Rate LeBlanc

Current reimbursement rate of 58.5 cents/mile has not yet been applied for. LeBlanc asked that the board approve a lower rate, e.g. the 14 cents/mile applicable to charities. LeBlanc asked that the board approve the rate to be that of a charity. Klunzinger said it once was set at 25 cents due to Florence Schook's request. The president pointed out that the constitution has a provision for this. Rothfeld said we were belittling the process. **Wostyn moved that we change to the nonprofit rate of 14 cents per mile. Pall seconded, and the motion passed.**

E. Book Purchase Status LeBlanc

We have acquired a large number of books at a significant discount which are being given out. Life members receive these on request. We have signed close to 50 new members today (Friday, Nov 28). Last year we had more price guides, the cheapest item we distributed. But people want more exotic books, so LeBlanc got fewer price guides and more exotic titles this time. Price guides cost \$7 - \$7.50. Some exotic titles cost around \$15. A few were \$13-\$14. As a club, we lose money on our memberships; the MichMatist runs \$17 - \$18 per member per year. LeBlanc may ask for an increase in membership dues next year.

F. Michigan Corporate Existence LeBlanc

We have filed for the following year to continue as a Michigan Corporation.

G. ANA Seminar LeBlanc

LeBlanc has researched, per an Owosso board meeting request, that we sponsor this for Spring 2010. The ANA wants 10-20 students. Tuition recommended by them would be \$350 for a member of the ANA, or \$400 for a non-member. Host club membership could be combined into this kind of discounting scheme. The ANA estimates a cost of \$4000 to \$5000 for such a class, so they want us to be sure we can meet the attendance threshold. LeBlanc asks permission to proceed, and that the board allocate up to \$5000 toward the endeavor, thus proving to the ANA that we are committed. LeBlanc added that we should attempt to sell the seats, but then also to consider a means of scholarship to fill the class as necessary. **Klunzinger moved permission for LeBlanc to proceed with up to \$5000 at his disposal to commit to an ANA seminar in 2010's spring show.**

Pall asked that we consider getting clubs to match funds or to award a scholarship to a member. Al Bobrofsky asked that all board members and attendees go to their home clubs and find out what is the level of interest. LeBlanc said the MichMatist should have an article soliciting interest levels. Wostyn said Marysville already has expressed an interest in providing a scholarship to one of their own. **Klunzinger amended his motion to include allocation from the Pruchnicki account. The motion was seconded, and then**

passed.

H. Spring 08 Raffle Prize LeBlanc

The raffle ticket that was unclaimed remains thus. LeBlanc asked the State of Michigan what to do with this approx. \$500 prize, and was informed that it has to be given to another of the same pool of tickets (it is too late to do this), or to another 501c3 organization. LeBlanc suggested the ANA, CSNS, and Salvation Army as possibilities. **Klunzinger moved and Pall seconded a motion that the prize be given to the ANA in memory of Florence Schook, to benefit the summer seminar. LeBlanc added that he has to notify the state, and that they have to bless the choice. Motion carried.**

I. Grievance against member-RS Friedman DROPPED

J. MichMatist set Pall

Pall demanded that the set of old issues of the MichMatist, given to Klunzinger for safekeeping several years ago, be located and returned. Al Bobrofsky noted that he was secretary at that time, and had turned over every single issue to Klunzinger. Klunzinger offered the explanation that he had had a flood in his basement, had not noticed it for six weeks, and that when he did, all of the issues had been destroyed. Parks added that he'd like us to note in the MichMatist that we need old back issues. LeBlanc says we got a lot of donations from the George Beach family. Parks wants a historian appointed. LeBlanc wants this done also.

K. 501c 3 Audit # 2 LeBlanc

We've received an audit request from the IRS regarding our 2007 form 990, which was triggered by our retroactive change in status. The IRS has the modified information that we supplied. Subsequently, we were again asked for this information. Jack Huggins has helped us, and has re-submitted the forms requested.

L. Sharpe's Show MSNS Table Wostyn

Last fall we had table at Chuck Sharpe's suburban Detroit coin show. Larry Sekulich and Julianna Wostyn manned the tables for free. It will be held at the Radisson in Livonia. Jan. 29-31, 2009, he'd like to do again. Board members were requested to volunteer and Sekulich again volunteered.

M. Auction Report LeBlanc

Current Auction: LeBlanc is not happy that SilverTowne did not utilize our printer for their catalogs, which would have qualified for non-profit mailing. The postage cost \$600-\$700 more, totaling about \$1300. We mailed over 900 out. We have the vouchers ready (worth up to \$30 for auction purchases by members). We are not obligated to continue with SilverTowne contractually. We have heard tentatively from two auctioneers expressing interest in these auctions – e.g. Numismatic Auctions, LLC. There is some grumbling about the quality of the catalog and the material. Based on our poor history of receiving bids, Klunzinger suggested that we could rather request a presentation from a potential auctioneer. LeBlanc will review the paperwork we have with SilverTowne and determine the contractual status by our February board meeting regarding who will be our auctioneer and how they will be contracted.

N. Raffle

LeBlanc

Steve Bieda said he'd attempt to talk to the charitable gaming commission on our behalf, in an effort to restore the raffle. Klunzinger said that if the issue were pursued, it should be reworked in several ways. Strub said that the raffle unnecessarily introduces a gaming element that has nothing to do with our numismatic and educational purpose and should therefore be dropped. LeBlanc said that if we didn't pursue restoring the raffle, member clubs could have challenges from the state of Michigan. Parks supported the idea of a raffle. **Klunzinger moved that Representative Steve Bieda pursue the issue with the Michigan State Charitable Gaming Commission before his position ends. Pall supported, and the motion passed.**

XIV. New Business

A. 1099 to winners?

LeBlanc

Huggins says we don't send forms 1099 to the winners of trips to the ANA seminar because our position is that it is not a financial benefit, but an educational benefit.

B. Waiver liability on ANA trip

LeBlanc

We haven't had our best-of-show winners sign a waiver to date. CSNS has such a waiver. Ron Sirna will provide us with wording. **Pall moved and Wostyn seconded, carried.**

C. Hire Accountant for 08 Taxes

LeBlanc

Klunzinger moved, and Pall seconded, a motion to hire Jack Huggins as our accountant for the 2008 taxes. Motion passed.

D Schook –ANA Donation

Bobrofsky, Al

The ANA named their educational program after Florence Schook, a past MSNS and ANA president. It would be nice if this society contributed to it. Cliff Mischler says the program is formative, but can be contributed toward. Al Bobrofsky and the other past Presidents asked that MSNS commit \$10k over the next 3 years. **Klunzinger moved that the question of committing \$10,000 to the ANA for the Florence Schook educational fund, and the source of the funds, be on the February 2009 agenda. Mike Strub seconded it. Passed**

E. Club Co-Host Fall 09 – MTH

LeBlanc

Klunzinger moved that the Michigan Treasure Hunters club be awarded co-host status, with the already-approved club of Northwest Detroit, for the Fall 2009 convention. This motion was seconded by Leach and passed.

F. Bank signers

LeBlanc

New bank signers should be: LeBlanc, Malnar, Parks, and Al Bobrofsky. All must sign under the patriot act supplying their driver's license. All checks will still need to be signed by 2 people for amounts over \$200. Klunzinger so moved, Pall seconded and the motion carried.

G. Survey Results LeBlanc
Not yet tallied. Also more appropriate to report to new board.

H. Graders – Free Table LeBlanc
We have at this convention two entities that grade: Dominion (in the annex) and SEGS. The main room table – Larry Briggs – is not in SEGS' name. LeBlanc receives a lot of requests to know which grading services will be present. The Dominion table is free to that company for this purpose. LeBlanc asks that we clarify our policy, and name the acceptable list of grading services, and require that the activity of free tables given to them be proscribed. Parks noted that the last time ANACS had a table on the main floor, adjacent dealers complained of the crowd; also that there should not be a free table for them.

I. ANA Nomination Klunzinger / LeBlanc
We have passed motions that we do nominate people who make the request if they are MSNS members. We've already had one request for nomination to the board of governors that we've processed. We're allowed to nominate as many members as there are board seats plus the president and vice president. We've already nominated Walter Ostromecki. We have a request from an honorary life member to be nominated as ANA president: Cliff Mischler. **Klunzinger moved that we nominate "Cliff Mischler, a native son of Michigan, born in Vandalia, for the office of ANA president." The motion, seconded by Pall, carried.**

XV. Committee Reports

A. Exhibit Passic
At this convention we had 90 cases and 27 exhibitors. The committee met tonight. The Spring, 2009 theme will be metal detecting. An educational seminar on metal detecting may be provided. Fall, 2009 the rotating theme will be Abraham Lincoln.

B. Auctions Summerell
Summerell not present.

C. Past Presidents Al Bobrofsky
None

D. MichMatist Parks
Positive comments continue. But there is some problem with the webmaster. **Strub moved that we terminate the current contract with webmaster Tracy Tabor effective Dec. 31, 2008. Pall seconded the motion, which passed.**

Mike Marotta has asked that he be named the new webmaster. Mike accepted the committee appointment, effective January with the concurrence of our current President Ann Bobrofsky and President-elect Dr. Parks. Mike Marotta will present a proposal as to what he proposes to do with the website at the next board meeting.

E. Publicity Open

F. Membership

Sekulich

Sekulich noted that membership is a missing link on the website. LeBlanc stated that our Life Membership rolls carry dead people. LeBlanc will be trying to scrub them from the rolls, and promises a proposal in the new year. 50+ are probably deceased, and 50 wish not to be considered members. It would be a savings vis-à-vis the MichMatist costs too.

G. Conv. Manual

Al Bobrofsky

Bobrofsky will discuss this with the new president.

H. Conv. Committee

Al Bobrofsky

There was nothing new to report.

I. Finance Review - Audit

Leach

No Report.

J. Communication Clubs Membership

Wostyn

One candidate to host the mini-convention, Battle Creek, has come forth. They want to research a September, 2009 convention and possibly approaching 2 more clubs. Does the board support? **Wostyn then moved that we commit to Battle Creek being the first co-host of a mini-convention in the Fall of 2009. Pall seconded the motion, which passed.** Wostyn will do a write-up for review and publication in the next MichMatist.

XVI. Committee Appointments none

XVII. Board Member Comments

Rothfeld says Rich of Mason Coins has chosen Rothfeld to convey a message to the board. It is: he wants everyone to know he is a faithful dealer that always stays in this hotel. This time they had no rooms for him. He was upset. Since he's a AAA member, he got a better rate at the hotel by citing that fact, and he also actually got a room here.

We decided that we should informally publicize that you get your best rate first, then tell them you're with MSNS. That gets us credit under the contract for our minimum room count, and everybody gets the best rate.

Dr. Parks thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve as president.

We then received a letter from Tom Klunzinger noting that he resigns effective immediately (9:20pm this very night). **Strub moved, and Parks seconded, that we accept the resignation of Klunzinger; motion passed.**

President Ann Bobrofsky said the vacancy will not be filled.

Ann Bobrofsky thanked all for the opportunity to serve.

Dr. Parks will call the board meetings in advance as much as possible.

XVIII. General Membership Comments

None

XVIII. Adjourn

A motion was made and supported by Parks, and passed, that we adjourn. We did so at 9:36pm