



MAHANOEY AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1-7 West Centre Street
P.O. Box 127
Mahanoy City, PA 17948
570-773-1295

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www.mahanoyhistory.org
Francis Senglar
President

Patricia P. Brown
Secretary
Elizabeth K. Coombe
Treasurer
Francis Burke
Curator

Peg Grigalonis
Financial Secretary
Ray Eichman
Historian
Robert Fallan
Historical Room Manager

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, January 28, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Bill Brown, Francis Senglar, Pat Brown, Joseph Flamini, Rose Flamini, Dolly Wagner, Charles Savage, Lois Griffiths, Thomas Ward, Peg Ward Coombe, Angela Witconis, Joan Goodman and Kathy Wufsus.

President Francis Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Kathy Wufsus.

MINUTES

Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as printed on a motion by Kathy Wufsus, seconded by Dolly Wagner.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Treasurer Betty Coombe, the financial report for the end of 2007 was given by President Senglar and accepted on a motion by Rose Flamini, seconded by Joan Goodman.

COMMITTEES

Christmas Program

Rose Flamini gave a report on the society's Christmas program held Saturday, December 5, 2007 at the First United Methodist Church, which was attended by 59 people.

Artifacts

Rose Flamini said a number of items had been donated to the society and she is working at home completing the accession forms.

Community Preservation

Joan Goodman said all the plaques purchased with a \$5,000 state grant had been distributed with the exception of the plaque for the home of Charles Savage in the 400 block of East Mahanoy Avenue. She said there was a mistake on the wording and Savage agreed to pay to have the plaque re-inscribed. The building was the home of Augusta Thomas Dillman, who wrote a booklet on "Reminiscences of Mahanoy City."

Ms. Goodman said St. Paul's Church requested a plaque and the Welsh Church at Fourth and Market also wanted a plaque. She suggested the society purchase one or two plaques each year from its treasury for buildings that are more than 100 years old and meet the necessary criteria.

In order to close out the grant record as required by the state for another \$5,000 state grant received to help with flood damages, Goodman said she needed various invoices for items purchased and for renovations costs to the historical room. She said the only thing she could find was a proposal for \$4,400 for work done in the historical room but could not find a paid receipt for the renovations, but was going to meet with Charles Snukis, the contractor, to see if he could provide her with the necessary paid receipt. Paid invoices were also needed from Arcadia Printing for *Images of America* that were lost in the flood and for a new printer. Both \$5,000 grants were secured through the office of State Representative Neal P. Goodman.

Nominating Committee

Rose Flamini presented the following slate of officers for the 2008-2009 term:

Frank Senglar	President
Thomas Ward	Vice President
Peg Ward Coombe	Secretary
Angela Witconis	Treasurer
Joseph Flamini	Financial Secretary

The motion was seconded by Kathy Wufsus and unanimously passed to elect the nominated officers. Members present gave a round of applause to the new officers.

Special Committees

Lois Griffiths said she would ask Sally Irwin to serve on the auditing committee with her to audit the 2007 books.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Senglar said the new officers would have to come up with a 2008 budget. Senglar also said that five books and memberships had been purchased on the historical society's website; however, the society had not received any funds from PayPal because the money must be deposited into a bank account and he didn't want to give the bank account number of the general fund. At the executive meeting the previous Thursday, Senglar said it was suggested that the funds from the PayPal should go into a new bank account. Treasurer Witconis will check with the bank.

Senglar said the society's website, which was designed by Mark Zucker, had a link to the Schuylkill Store and one of the T-shirts for sale had profanity on it and Senglar asked Zucker to remove this shirt and he agreed to it. *didn't agree.*

Program Committee Chairman Kathy Wufsus said she spoke to Jack Deesing of American Legion Post 74 regarding a visit by society members to see the various uniforms the post has on display, but was unable to commit to a certain date until given one by the society. She said the group could visit the post following a meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom Ward said someone wanted to see the Mahanoy Township yearbooks when he was volunteering in the room, but the case was locked and he couldn't get the books. Pat Brown said the difference between Mahanoy Township High School and Mahanoy City High School is that Mahanoy City donated the cases to the society, whereas the township still owns the cases and its contents and displays the cases at the society. She said the township also pays a portion of the society's insurance bills for the cases and only two people had keys for the cases.

Ward said the Mahanoy Area Public Library sent 20 binders with old newspapers to be put on a disk, which will eventually be made available to library patrons via the Internet. He said the library received a \$10,000 grant for this work from Senator James Rhoades, and also received a \$192,000 grant for work on its second floor. A discussion was held on honoring older residents in the borough such as Ruth Olson, who is 101 and Bill Kates who soon will be 100. Senglar said he received old tapes from a Smoke Shop picnic that he would show following the meeting, and a 1963 Centennial tape from John Honus.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. on a motion by Swing Flamini seconded by Bill Brown. The next meeting will be held Monday, February 20, and the executive committee will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, February 21, 2008.

Patricia P. Brown, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society



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Treasurer
Joseph Flamini
Financial Secretary

Peg Coombe
Secretary
Bob Fallan
Room Manager

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, February 25, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Francis Senglar, Angela Witconis, Thomas Ward, Peg Ward Coombe, Francis Burke, Peg Grigalonis, Charles Savage, Dolly Wagner, Rose Flamini, Joseph Flamini, and Bill Brown.

President Francis Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Tom Ward.

MINUTES

Minutes of the January meeting were read, with 3 errors pointed out by Francis Senglar. On page 3, paragraph one: there were 7, not 5, books and memberships purchased on the Historical Society's website. On page 3 paragraph 2: Mark Zucker did not agree to remove the T-shirt with profanity on it. On page 3, paragraph 6, the date for February's meeting should read the 25th. Upon correction of the minutes, a motion to accept was made by Dolly Wagner and seconded by Peg Grigalonis.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report, submitted by Angela Witconis, indicated there was a balance of \$13,247.88 in the general fund and \$1676.32 in the memorial fund savings account. The Pay Pal checking account contains \$20 and the CD value is \$1081.55. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Peg Grigalonis and seconded by Joseph Flamini.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Peg Coombe said an invitation was received from the A.O.H. asking if the Historical Society would like to participate in the Girardville St. Patrick's Day parade on March 29, 2008. Francis Burke has agreed to take his classic car to the event. A letter was received from Raymond Wolfgang, along with a \$50 donation to defray the expenses

involved in distributing the Historical Society newsletter. Mr. Wolfgang made the suggestion of initiating an email newsletter instead of mailing one, to reduce costs. At the present time email addresses are not available for the entire membership, but the potential exists for having some sort of email newsletter for those on file. A thank-you card was received from Charles Savage regarding the plaque for the Thomas and Augusta Thomas residence. Mr. Savage has graciously invited the members to the Thomas residence for a reception at a future date. The 1874 home is being restored by Mr. Savage, and the Program Committee will explore having the program at the residence some time in the future, when the weather breaks.

COMMITTEES

Christmas Program – Angela Witconis explained the monetary breakdown for the Christmas program. The Methodist Church received 9 complimentary dinners, \$55 for the organist, and \$50 for Rev. Khan. Len Ludinsky is satisfied with this in lieu of the customary donation to the church.

Artifacts – Rose Flamini reported that she has 3 bags of artifacts to log, but she is in need of accession forms to complete the process. She will proceed when the printer has new ink cartridges installed.

Room – Bob Fallan said that some care is needed in accepting acquisitions for the Historical Room. He suggests that there be guidelines, and that potential donors can be told that space is limited so that they are not offended. Peg Grigalonis added that about a decade ago it was agreed upon not to accept any more newspapers. Tom Ward said that there are shelves available at Service Electric which the Historical Society can use for storage. Bob Fallan commented that things can be inventoried, boxed up and stored, and be available upon request. Peg Grigalonis pointed out that a storage agreement also exists with the library.

Community Preservation – Peg Grigalonis commented on the worth of recognizing historical buildings in the community with plaques. She feels that the treasury can support a plaque program to recognize 2-3 buildings per year, at \$300 per plaque. She suggested taking applications and paying for plaques out of the general fund. Anyone who meets the guidelines can ask for a plaque. Joan Goodman and Peg Grigalonis researched the criteria. Peg also suggested waiting for Joan Goodman's input at next month's meeting before finalizing any decision.

Membership – In the absence of Marjorie Fletcher, Angela Witconis reported that current membership stands at 233, with 79 paid memberships for 2008, and some extending beyond.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Peg Grigalonis asked Frank Senglar for an update on the website situation. Frank Senglar said he contacted Mark Zucker regarding the objections about the T-shirt containing profanity, and requested its removal. Mr. Zucker refused, citing First Amendment rights. Frank Senglar contacted the High School to see if anyone would be interested in setting up a user-friendly website for the Society. He also specifically contacted Nancy Honus, who is working on finding someone, and will hopefully have something for us in the near future. Angela Witconis suggested contacting L.J. Brylewsky, who also works with computers at the High School. Angela volunteered to contact him. The website with Mark Zucker is paid up for 2 years at a cost of \$195. A new website would cost \$20 - \$25 per month.

Frank Senglar ordered remanufactured ink on-line for the printer at less than half price of the previous cartridges.

Tom Ward commented on the need for a new printer/copier for the Historical Room and Peg Grigalonis suggested including that in the budget for 2008. Frank Senglar said he wants to meet with Peg Coombe and Angela Witconis, with input from Marjorie Fletcher, in the near future to address the budget.

Peg Grigalonis registered the Historical Society 2 months ago regarding electronic filing of a tax return. She is waiting for a response at this time.

Frank Senglar announced that the Tiger Scouts will be visiting the Historical Room on March 4 at 6PM, if anyone is interested in coming in to greet them.

Bob Fallan announced that the Society will once again use a World War II themed display during the Memorial Day weekend.

Frank Senglar reported that the 3 films of the smoke shop picnic have been sent for copying to DVD at a cost of \$250. Mark Chamberlain, the contact person, said the cost of the DVD's will decrease proportionately according to the number of DVD's ordered. Members will be able to view the DVD and determine how many will be ordered. Bob Fallan said that several years ago the Frackville Lions had a DVD sale fundraiser which did very well. They contacted their alumni associations for mailing lists, and suggested we do the same. Bob also suggested having the Centennial films pre-packaged, publicized, and ready for sale at Christmas time, both on the website and in the Historical Room.

Angela Witconis requested that all pertinent information be included with incoming dues money.. She has \$55 dues money with no accompanying form or name.

Peg Grigalonis said she purchased the folklorist's DVD of all the ethnic music from the county and it will be available in the Historical Room.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 on a motion from Joseph Flamini, seconded by Francis Burke. The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on Monday, March 31, 2008. An executive committee meeting will be held at 1 PM on Thursday, March 27.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society



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Room Manager

Peg Ward Coombe
Secretary
Angela Witconis
Treasurer

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, March 31, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Angela Witconis, Frank Senglar, Peg Coombe, Thomas Ward, Joseph Flamini, Rose Flamini, Dolly Wagner, Charles Savage, Joan Goodman, Peg Grigalonis, and Mark Zucker.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Tom Ward.

MINUTES

Minutes of the February meeting were read and approved, with a motion to accept by Peg Grigalonis and seconded by Joan Goodman.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report, submitted by Angela Witconis, indicated a balance of \$13,966.08 in the general fund and \$1676.32 in the Memorial Savings Fund. Paypal checking account contains \$191.51 and the CD value, which matures 10-6-08, is \$108,155. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Joseph Flamini and seconded by Dolly Wagner.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Peg Coombe read a letter from PPL which contained a \$1000 donation to the Historical Society. She will acknowledge their generous gift and contact PPL to set up a publicity photo session. A letter was also received from the Mahanoy Area United Veterans Memorial Day Parade Committee. Peg will return the enclosed response card indicating that the Historical Society will participate in the parade with 1 vehicle.

Correspondence from The PA Genealogical Society was read and the group opted not to participate in the annual membership at the rate of \$50. A letter regarding a PA and Federal Labor Law Poster for the Historical Room was deemed non-applicable. A contribution request from Girls' Softball was denied, as the Historical Society's policy is not to participate in donations.

COMMITTEES

Artifacts: Rose Flamini is still in need of accession sheets to complete her work. She reported that she received some papers, most of which were damaged, but there were 3 Bibles in good condition. Peg Grigalonis reiterated the previous policy of not accepting newspapers. Frank Senglar feels that we can still accept some newspapers. The need for selectivity in accepting items was also reiterated. Personal items are questionable, unless there is particular historical significance. Joan Goodman emphasized that we don't accept items on loan because they are not insured. Frank Senglar pointed out that documents or pictures can be copied, with the originals returned to the owner. Tom Ward reported that someone came into the Historical Room asking about certain donated items not being on display. Specifically, a photo of the Curley Indians football team, and Clara Grazel's license, plaque and other items were mentioned. The person requested that the items be returned if not displayed. Peg Grigalonis said the items are in the Historical Room. They will be searched for and located.

Programs: Rose Flamini suggested that since there will be some churches closing in the near future, it may be a good time to do a tour of them and have a last look. Rose has a list of churches, will talk to Kathy Wufsus, and will report back in April.

Community Preservation: Joan Goodman reported that she has to do a closeout on the plaque money. It was felt that giving out 2-3 plaques a year is feasible. Joan stated that each plaque costs approximately \$350, and would take about 2 months to come in. Peg Grigalonis said that people would be able to apply and we'd see if they meet the criteria for approval. Joan Goodman pointed out that some churches have refused a plaque. Peg Grigalonis made a motion that the Historical Society fund a maximum of 3 plaques a year at a cost of about \$1000. The motion was seconded by Joseph Flamini. The motion was carried. Peg Coombe will contact the Republican Herald to put an item in the newspaper regarding applications for the plaques, with Joan Goodman being listed as the contact person.

Membership: In the absence of Marjorie Fletcher, Frank Senglar reported that there are 238 current members, with 106 members dues paid for 2008. Peg Grigalonis suggested including a reminder about dues in the next newsletter. A newsletter is usually sent in October, which would be a good time to place a reminder for the following year's dues. Frank Senglar pointed out that the sale of the Historical Society's book increased memberships.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

Tom Ward reported that a computer hard drive was purchased by the Mahanoy City Public Library Newspaper Project to back up the one sent by the people copying the old newspaper binders. The cost of the hard drive was \$150. On a motion by Joan Goodman and seconded by Rose Flamini, it was voted that the Historical Society make a gift of \$50 to help pay for the hard drive. Frank Senglar pointed out that there is \$3000 budgeted for just this sort of thing. Peg Grigalonis suggested that Mahanoy alumni classes may be interested in supporting this project by paying for the binder of the year of their graduation.

Frank Senglar presented a workup of the cost of the production of 300 DVD's of the 1963 Centennial Parade which could be used as a fund raiser. He distributed a sheet with the breakdown of costs for the group to peruse. The projected profit after expenses would be about \$1490. Frank Senglar will contact the company and request that they provide us with 2 sample DVD's with music. Peg Grigalonis made a motion that the committee review the DVD with music and then order if it's acceptable. The motion was seconded by Rose Flamini. Frank Senglar said that he will place a DVD in the Historical Room for viewing. The goal is to have them for sale on Memorial Day and at the Celebrate Schuylkill event at the Fairlane Mall, as well as on the website and through the newsletter.

Frank Senglar also reported that the Smoke Shop DVD from a different company has been completed. Frank also said that a 16mm film containing a walk-through of the Kaier's Brewery brewing process was donated at some point. It must be ascertained that it is not a copyrighted version such as the one by John Leiberman.

Frank Senglar presented the current budget, based on figures taken from last year's budget.

Frank Senglar reported that Loretta Murphy, a local author, is in the process of trying to have a historical marker placed at the site of the O'Donnell House in Wiggans. She has asked if the Historical Society could do anything in support of her, such as write a letter to Harrisburg. Peg Grigalonis stated that the problem seems to be in establishing definite documentation about the location of the house. Peg Grigalonis will contact Loretta Murphy to check on the status of her application to the state, and ask for a copy.

Peg Grigalonis informed the group of an event called 'Celebrate Schuylkill', to be held at the Fairlane Mall on May 3 from 11 AM to 5 PM. Organizations and groups will have displays about ethnic and cultural heritage. There will also be food and entertainment. There is no fee, and this would be an opportunity to have a display and sell our DVD. Peg Grigalonis has volunteered to register us and get things together for a display. Frank Senglar has volunteered to tend the table at the day of the event, and is looking for other volunteers to assist.

Mark Zucker was available to answer questions relating to the website. He believed that there are now no links that go directly to objectionable materials. The link should now go to Mark Zucker Enterprises. He will check on this and is willing to remove the link if it still exists. Mark further stated that he is now working with a different server which can offer more options to the website such as forums and a store module. Peg Coombe will email each month's approved minutes to Mark for posting on the website, as well as announcements for upcoming events.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 on a motion by Joseph Flamini, seconded by Tom Ward. The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on Monday April 28, 2008. An Executive Committee meeting will be held at 1 PM on Thursday, April 24.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society

1963 Centennial Parade Fundraiser

Costs for processing (2 DVD's, 2 DV Tapes, Cleaning, S&H)	\$ 284.00	- pd.
Adding music (300 DVD's)	\$ 140.00	
Additional formatting	\$ 50.00	
300 DVD's with music, plastic case and label (\$3.37 each with 300 DVD order)	\$ 1011.00	
175 Bubble wrap paper mailers (6"x10")	\$ 25.00	
Total	\$ 1510.00	
300 DVD's, Case, Label and Mailers/ \$1510=	\$5.03 each	
Selling @ \$10.00 each=	\$ 3000.00	
Projected profit (minus postage)	\$ 1490.00	



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The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, April 28, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Rose Flamini, Joseph Flamini, Kathy Wufsus, Charles Savage, Peg Grigalonis, Peg Coombe, Thomas Ward, Frank Senglar, Mark Zucker, and Joan Goodman.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Kathy Wufsus.

MINUTES

Minutes of the March meeting were read, with two corrections made. Joan Goodman said that a church, rather than some churches, had refused a plaque. Frank Senglar noticed that a decimal point was needed in the value of the CD in the Treasurer's Report. After corrections were made, Peg Grigalonis moved to accept the minutes, and Kathy Wufsus seconded the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the absence of Angela Witconis, Frank Senglar presented the treasurer's report. Balance in the General Fund as of April 28 is \$13,738.75. Memorial Fund savings balance is \$1,677.36. Paypal checking account balance is \$191.51. Certificate of Deposit is valued at \$1,081.55 and matures 10-6-08.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

Since the last meeting, three reels of film containing footage of the Centennial Parades have been found in the library. Frank Senglar and Tom Ward viewed these films and compared them to those that the Society has already had copied to DVD. The library copies contain sound, but the visuals are long shots and pans, which make recognition of individuals difficult. The footage that the Historical Society has copied to DVD doesn't have sound, but was taken at street level and it allows identification of individuals. The consensus of the group was that there is a need to preserve all existing film on DVD, and that all footage can eventually be released for sale in a series. The Historical Society will be going forward with its plan to release its own DVD as a fund raiser.

Tom Ward and Peg Grigalonis reported on the progress of the Newspaper Project. Binders from 1916 through March of 1924 have been digitized. A \$10,000 grant obtained through Senator Rhoades will allow for the digitizing of 27 more binders, taking in issues through 1928. Peg Grigalonis is in the process of applying for one more grant.

Frank Senglar and Peg Grigalonis reminded the group of the Celebrate Schuylkill activities at the Fairlane Mall on Saturday, May 3 from 11-5. There will be vendors and entertainment. Pre-orders for the DVD sale will be able to be taken.

Mark Zucker updated the group on the Society's website. He has set up a forum where people can post questions for reply. He has asked for ideas for topics for the forum. In the next 2 months he will set up a new website that will include a shop module linked to Paypal. Peg Grigalonis asked if there is an additional fee for this. Mark responded that there would not be additional cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Tom Ward announced that the Rotary of Southern Schuylkill County is offering free tickets to a Glenn Miller Concert to veterans of World War II and the Korean War. The concert will be held May 9, 2009 at the Schuylkill Haven High School Auditorium, and ticket requests must be made in the next couple of days. There will also be a sponsored trip for the same veterans to the War Memorials and Arlington Cemetery in Washington, D.C., in the near future.

Frank Senglar asked whether something can be done to commemorate the many contributions of Bill O'Brien to the Historical Society. Mr. O'Brien was instrumental in the preparation of the Mahanoy Area book, the saving of the newspapers, and the donation of personal items. Several suggestions were discussed, including placement of a plaque, a photo displayed in the museum room, along with a copy of a newspaper

COMMITTEES

Artifacts: Rose Flamini reported that other than the Bibles mentioned at last month's meeting, there were no new accessions.

Community Preservation: Joan Goodman reported that she had one telephone message regarding questions about placement of plaques. Tom Ward requested an application for Zion Baptist Church.

Membership: Frank Senglar reported in the absence of Marjorie Fletcher that current membership stands at 238, with 115 members dues paid for 2008, and some beyond. Joseph Flamini will request that Shirley Ryan include a Historical Society dues reminder in her email to the Alumni.

Museum Room: Peg Grigalonis asked about the plans for Memorial Day. Peg Coombe pointed out that last month's minutes indicated that Bob Fallan would have a World War II display.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Peg Grigalonis and Frank Senglar talked to Loretta Murphy regarding her efforts to secure a historical marker for the O'Donnell House in Wiggans. Loretta had contacted Senator Rhoades, who wrote a letter to the state. However, she never filled out an application. Loretta prepared a letter to send to Mr. Rich, which Peg Grigalonis has edited. Frank Senglar read the letter to the group, which requests permission to place the marker on Rich's property. Since the commission seems to favor specific people rather than sites, the letter may be further modified, and then a friend of Frank Senglar's will hand deliver the letter to the appropriate party. Frank Senglar will also include a photograph of the Schertzinger marker, to give an idea of what the proposed marker will look like. Securing this permission is the first step in the approval process. Peg Grigalonis informed the group that January is the next review date for applications.

Kathy Wufsus spoke to Mary Zelonis from the American Legion. The Legion will be having an Open House after the Memorial Day Parade. It was agreed that any interested members of the Historical Society will meet one half hour after the conclusion of the parade and tour the Legion's memorabilia collection as a group. Kathy will notify the appropriate persons regarding our planned visit.

Peg Grigalonis inquired as to any plans to visit the Augusta Thomas House at 420 East Mahanoy Street. Charles Savage invited the Society to hold its June 30 meeting there. Mr. Savage also inquired as to the whereabouts of the Augusta Thomas writings. Peg Grigalonis said that they are in the upstairs of the library. Frank Senglar has agreed to tentatively schedule the June meeting for the Thomas House. He will research the procedure for a change of meeting venue and the contacting of members, and plans will be finalized at next month's meeting.

a plaque, a photo displayed in the museum room, along with a copy of a newspaper article about him, and a dedication to which the family could be invited. Frank suggested thinking about the options and addressing this further next month.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 on a motion by Joseph Flamini, seconded by Tom Ward. The next meeting will be held at 7 PM on Monday, May 19, 2008. An Executive Meeting will be held at 1 PM on Thursday, May 15.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society



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Treasurer

The monthly meeting of the Mahanoy Area Historical Society was held Monday, May 19, 2008 in the meeting rooms of the Mahanoy Area Downtown Center. Attending were: Frank Senglar, Bob Fallan, Charles Savage, Angela Witconis, Thomas Ward, Peg Coombe, Alice Moore, and Kathy Wufsus.

President Frank Senglar opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a prayer by Kathy Wufsus.

MINUTES

The minutes of the April meeting were read, with a motion to accept by Kathy Wufsus and seconded by Bob Fallan.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report, submitted by Angela Witconis indicated a balance of \$14,653.38 in the general fund and \$1687.36 in the Memorial Savings Fund. Paypal checking account contains \$239.45 and the CD value, which matures 10-6-08 is \$1081.55. The treasurer's report was accepted on a motion by Tom Ward and seconded by Bob Fallan.

CORRESPONDENCE

Secretary Peg Coombe read a letter from the Upper Schuylkill Band requesting that the Historical Society be a sponsor. Peg Coombe made a motion to sponsor the band in the amount of \$50. The motion was seconded by Bob Fallan and passed unanimously. A contribution of \$1000 was received from Atty. and Mrs. Robert Bohorad, which will be acknowledged by a letter of appreciation.

COMMITTEES

Artifacts: Alice Moore reported that from March 26 to the present, she has accessed 55 items.

Community Preservation: Tom Ward reported that Joan Goodman has prepared an application form for plaques, and he has received one for Zion Baptist Church.

Membership: Frank Senglar reported that current membership stands at 239, with 119 members dues paid through 2008. Frank also reported that dues must be paid for past years before current year, and that no one will be dropped from the membership rolls at this time for non-payment of 2008 dues.

Museum Room: Bob Fallan reported that he attended a very productive meeting of the county's various historical societies at the county headquarters. He also reported on the progress of the room's display for Memorial Day. The room will be open from 11 until 3 on May 26.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Frank Senglar reported that the June meeting will be held at the Thomas House at 420 East Mahanoy Street. A sign will be placed on the Historical Society's door containing that information, and Frank will send out emails as well.

The proposal to honor Bill O'Brien with some kind of tribute was tabled until next month's meeting pending further information.

Tom Ward reported on the Newspaper Project. A \$10,000 grant is being used for the digitizing of an additional 13,000 pages. The additional binders have been mailed for processing.

Frank Senglar reported on the progress of the placement of a historical marker at the site of the O'Donnell House in Wiggans. The Historical Museum Commission wants the marker worded as 'The Wiggans Patch Massacre'. It seems favorable that the marker will be approved. Also, Mr. Rich seems to be willing to allow the marker to be placed on his property, but would like to be given a historical account of the events. Frank will contact Loretta Murphy and request that he be sent the information.

NEW BUSINESS

Frank Senglar pointed out that the by-laws may need revision in order to address donation requests on a case by case basis.

Frank Senglar also pointed out that the answering machine message on the Historical Society's telephone extension needs to be changed, and that he would update it.

Angela Witconis inquired as to the practice of carrying a large balance in the general fund. She was authorized to look into alternative accounts with higher interest rates.

Frank Senglar reported that Mark Zucker worked on the computer in the museum room for 2 and a half hours, removing viruses and installing security software. A motion was made by Tom Ward to compensate Mr. Zucker for his time in the amount of \$40. The motion was seconded by Alice Moore.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M. on a motion by Alice Moore, and seconded by Kathy Wufsus. The next meeting will be held at the Thomas House on Monday, June 30, 2008. An Executive Meeting will be held at 1 P.M. on Thursday, June 26.

Peg Coombe, Secretary
Mahanoy Area Historical Society