

Minutes of the Tennessee Society of Mayflower Descendants

Fall Meeting - Business

November 22, 2022

Old Natchez Country Club

Franklin, Tennessee

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The meeting was called to order by Governor Karen Bauer at approximately 10:30am.

In attendance: Karen Bauer, Governor  
Jon Kessell, Secretary  
Peggie Sides, Historian  
Herb Gould, AG  
Lisa Lewis, Education

Not present: Dave Mensel, Treasurer.

Topics discussed and passed without opposition.

1. Approval of the 2022 Spring Meeting Minutes. This meeting was held April 2, 2022, at the East Tennessee Historical Society, Knoxville, Tennessee. These minutes were distributed to the membership prior to this meeting for their review. Copies of the minutes were also made available at the meeting. Peggie Sides made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. The minutes were approved.

Discussions and Decisions not requiring a vote:

We are officially a 501c3 organization.

Our application to become a 501c3 organization was approved by the IRS in June 2022. Due to the backlog of posting new 501c3 organizations to the IRS website, you will not see us listed. We have received all of the necessary documents to proceed.

New interim Treasurer and Committees.

Our Board of Assistants has selected and approved David (Dave) Mensel, a former Forensic Accountant, as our Interim Treasurer. Other newly created committees are:

Finance – Dennis Klotter (Chair); Dave Mensel; Dan Baker; Jon Kessell; Governor Bauer

Scholarship – Kari Bernier (Chair); Janet Cantrell; Betty Sue Ward Sparks; Governor Bauer

75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Lisa Lewis (Chair); Kari Bernier; Governor Bauer

### Discussion of future meeting venues.

Governor Bauer has been working venues in West Tennessee, specifically for our next Spring meeting, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023. She continues to look for a suitable place and requested help from members in West Tennessee.

### Treasurers Report – by Governor Bauer

Our current operating balance is \$10,420. This figure does not reflect the payment of annual dues owed to the General Society. Annual dues are calculated: Active members X \$45.00. We are currently looking into a proposal to annually roll investment dividends into our Scholarship Fund. This is in addition to potential donations. Due to our Tax Status change we can no longer add investment dividends to our operating budget. If you have made a donation to our society, you should have received a tax receipt from Dave Mensel. If not, please contact Dave. Please remember that you can designate donations to a specific society cause or purpose. For general donations you will be asked to sign a statement: “No gifts or Services were provided in exchange for this contribution”. Later in the meeting Governor Bauer emphasized that nonpayment of dues will result in that member being dropped. Those who pay back dues may be reinstated.

### Historians Report – Peggie Sides

Applications approved:	12
Transfers-in:	5
Supplemental:	3
Apps in Plymouth:	4
Apps on Desk:	5

Prior to April 1<sup>st</sup> Plymouth has been 8 months behind in processing new applications. Plymouth is currently 5 months behind.

### Secretary’s Report – Jon Kessell

Jon, Peggie and Dave are currently working on our membership roster. This work is done in conjunction with the General Society’s 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter Membership report. There is a continuing effort to move key society documents to our website. The website URL is: <https://tennesseemayflowersociety.org> (Side note: Links to society documents can be found on the ‘ABOUT’ page.)

The Society currently has two Facebook pages, one private and one public. Governor Bauer plans to build another Public Facebook page.

### Scholarship Report – Kari Bernier

The program is for High School Seniors and is open to members and the public. Applicants will write an essay (during the time of 17<sup>th</sup> century Plymouth) in the form of a letter (historic perspective) to be sent back home (to England). The winner will receive a \$1,000.00 award.

We can add to the award money. The name of the Scholarship will be: The Roger L. Young scholarship in honor of his contributions to Tennessee and our society. Peggie Sides introduced Roger which included a brief presentation of his many accomplishments. Roger graciously accepted the naming honor and thanked the Society.

### Junior Membership Committee – Governor Bauer - Chair

We currently have three applications pending. Karen announced she will be combining the Junior Membership and Education committees. The combined committees’ purpose will be to recognize Family members beyond that of the Society member. She asked for volunteers to fill positions in all committees.

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee – Lisa Lewis - Chair

Governor Bauer started the report with a review of potential supporting events:

- Jamestown Society joint events: Special lecture on Stephen Hopkins; Golf scramble – Us vs. Them (Fill in the names.).
- Varying event venues, East, West and Middle Tennessee.
- Celebration of the First meeting of our society: August 10, 1948?
- Formal Casino Night – Dress up and raise money for our Society and the Scholarship program. Lisa needs to know if members approve of these proposed events.
- Since the first meeting of our society took place in Chattanooga, Lisa is looking into having events there to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting.

## Education Committee Report – Lisa Lewis – Chair

Lisa has, and will continue to present Mayflower History to these and other groups / events:

- Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- Genealogy Fair, usually in January and February. She presents the Mayflower Compact and how it impacted our form of government. She emphasizes why Self-government is important for All.

Lisa then took questions regarding her Pilgrim dress. (See <https://tennesseemayflowersociety.org/news/> for photos of Lisa)

Unfinished Business: No

New Business: No

Program: Chuck Sherrill

Secretary note: Please see our website: <https://tennesseemayflowersociety.org/speakers-page/>

Closing Prayer – Herb Gould

Meeting Adjournment – Governor Bauer

Luncheon

Submitted by Jon T. Kessell

Secretary, The Tennessee Society of Mayflower Descendants