

June 26, 2008
Cousins Ways and Means Committee Meeting
Adams Mark Hotel – 5:00 p.m.

Minutes

Call to order @ 5:25 p.m.

Prayer – Cousin Kenneth Shaw

Welcome

K. Shaw – apologized for not having meeting in the Fall, 2007

Forward of Agenda for the meeting today

Committee Reports

Scholarship Committee Report – (Elsie Bowden)

Members were asked to read and if any questions, she would address them. Ken asked if recipient had received her scholarship. Committee continues to use the interest of account in Detroit. Discussion reported from Elsie that committee looked at using principal, but was tabled. Ken reminded us that W/M committee had discussed this issue before, but decided not to bother the principal, but use only interest. Currently: total funds = \$8,419.69; balance of scholarship fund (interest only) = \$1,419.69. Interest has been deposited into a separate checking account with Chase Bank. Ken asked for look at new application. Bennie asked what the qualifications were for eligibility. Ken responded with general criteria was via son or daughter of active member and attending the national reunion, member of a Cousins family and graduate of high school. Ken recommended changing/updating the essay topics for the application. Ken asked for recommendations for keeping the scholarship fund fluid. Cousin Gerald indicated that people in attendance at prayer breakfast/picnic/banquet donate money; another suggestion was for equally splitting the assessment fee between general fund and scholarship. Cousin Deborah suggested why not ask each chapter to donate from each member (~ say \$10.00) to send to scholarship fund. Ken mentioned that the organizational structure of individual chapters has changed; that each chapters' dynamics have changed. Cousin John discussed that Gerald's suggestion would cause general fund to take a substantial hit with splitting 50-50 with the national assessment initially. Ken liked more, the idea of collecting donations during the banquet, etc. Cousin Betty indicated that in the past, the national treasury was used to defray the cost of national if having to host the reunion. Due to limited attendance currently, the funding is also limited, as we would like to go back to supporting national chair in travel expenses. It was suggested to have a 50-50 raffle, but for tomorrow, Cousin Betty will ask for donations at end of banquet for scholarship fund. Also suggested was to have a silent

auction; Catholic church's charity-St. Mary Car Raffle with a 60/40 split. It was determined that the 50-50 raffle would be most expedient and just as effective.

It was moved by Betty and seconded by Ken to conduct the 50-50 raffle on a national level, during the entire family reunion weekend, except the prayer breakfast and winner will be announced at the Saturday activity. Winner need not be present to win. The vote was unanimous. It was decided that Cousin Cherrie will distribute the tickets to the W/M committee members to sell at reunion.

Reunion Summary Report from DC Chapter (Cousin Cherrie Hawkins)

Total spent = \$13,612.28

Total income = \$10,426.00

Over budget = \$3,186.28

The DC chapter's national assessment due = \$1,190.00

DC Recommendation

- Would like the National to accept the amount of \$500.00 as the assessment fee for hosting the 2007 Cousin Reunion and excuse the amount of \$690.00 because they were over budget.

Discussion:

Ken asked for lessons learned as a result, i.e. souvenir book cost, mailings, etc.

The website was discussed for update to be handled by Keith Brevard and John Jackson.

Motion: Betty – moved and seconded by Elsie to excuse the DC Chapter of \$690.00 due to their being over budget. Motion carried unanimously.

National Treasury Report (Cousin Shelia Johnson)

Report submitted and explained

Discussion

Motion to accept report as read by Bennie, seconded by Cherrie and Betty.

Vote was unanimous to accept report as submitted.

Recommendations

None

Recommendations Tabled

Reviewed

Scholarship Committee, but was taken care of

Others were withdrawn

Next Ways and Means Committee Meeting

2nd Saturday – November, 2008

Place: TBD

Responsibility of placement of meetings history – Cousin Gerald

Responsibility for W/M Committee meeting will now be the responsibility of the W/M Chair – Ken Shaw

Next Year's Reunion

McGriff's from Winston Salem, NC may wish to host the 2009 reunion.

If no one comes forth, Ken asked for a back up plan. Cousin Gerald suggested South Carolina – home base.

It will be discussed at general meeting, Saturday during the reunion, and have a result per Ken and Gerald.

Gerald made motion to close meeting at 6:50, seconded by Bennie.

Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Hatton, Secretary
Kenneth Shaw, Ways and Means Chairperson
Gerald Brevard, National Chairperson