

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
January 12, 2011, 12:00 p.m.

Participants:

Hon. Richard G. Kopf, Chairman of the Board
F. Richard Lyford, President
Frances Ross, Vice President
Ann Fessenden, Secretary
Sheila Greenbaum, Treasurer
Thomas H. Boyd, Past-President
Joan Voelker, Archives Librarian

Roll call was taken, and the minutes of the Executive Committee's September 20 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum reported that as of December 31, 2010, the parent account held a balance of \$9,578.87, and the appeals account, \$1,142.52. She also noted that the parent account had earned a total of \$33.53 in interest during 2010.

Secretary's Report

Secretary Fessenden told the Committee that Ms. Greenbaum's firm handled the IRS filings once again this year and did so pro bono. She reported that the parent Society had received a 100% response rate from the branches on financial reports and lacked only one activities report. Ms. Fessenden noted that the branch that did not report any activities did report that it had no funds, so this seemed to follow. She also reported on updates to the Historical Society's web site. Judge Heaney's page had been developed to include links to video of his memorial session, biographical display & booklet, bibliography, tributes, transcripts, resolutions, articles, audio of him telling the story of his special flag. She also said that at Judge Sippel's request, a video clip of Judge Richard S. Arnold's speech, "The Art of Judging," was posted on the Historical Society site. Judge Arnold had given this speech at the 2002 Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference.

American Society for Legal History (ASLH)

Ms. Greenbaum reported on her communication with ASLH Treasurer Craig Klafter. Mr. Klafter said that he had consulted with his colleagues and that they would be happy for the Eighth Circuit Historical Society to sponsor or co-sponsor ASLH's Welcome Reception. He said that ASLH would cover the cost of bus transportation to and from the Eagleton Courthouse for the reception and quoted an estimate from Russo's of \$7,276.50 to cater the event for 175 people. He also said that the Society's plans to present Judge Morris Arnold with an award could be made public once Judge Arnold had been approached with this information and had given his consent.

Ms. Greenbaum said she also contacted Tom Glick, President of Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL), who said BAMSL would be willing to contribute to funding for the event.

Comment was made that it would be good to get quotes from additional caterers, including those familiar with catering in the Eagleton Courthouse.

Chair Judge Kopf indicated that the Nebraska branch of the Historical Society could probably receive support from the Nebraska fund for perhaps \$1,000 to \$2,000. President Lyford said he could probably secure funding from the Iowa bar. He also suggested that if the members of the Executive Committee could approach their respective courts and bar associations, it could be possible for the Historical Society to receive financial support in \$1,000 bites. Mr. Boyd suggested contacting law firms for contributions. It was generally agreed that once a couple of organizations showed their support, others would likely also want to share in the support and credit.

It was also thought that in order for this approach to be most successful, some members of the supporting organizations would need to be allowed to attend the event, for example BAMSL's Executive Committee. With this potential for larger attendance, Ms. Greenbaum suggested catering quotes be obtained for 175-200 people, keeping in mind that at such an event, quotes do not necessarily need to be exact per capita. All agreed this was a good approach.

Chair Judge Kopf moved that the Historical Society Executive Committee offer to provide ASLH with up to \$8,000 funding for the Welcome Reception honoring Judge Morris Arnold, with the following provisions:

- The Eighth Circuit Historical Society retains control of the reception, working through the Circuit Executive's Office;
- ASLH pays for the costs of bus transportation to and from the Eagleton Courthouse;
- The presidents of both the Eighth Circuit Historical Society and ASLH contact Judge Morris Arnold regarding his award in order to obtain his permission to be honored, and once the permission is granted, each send letters of confirmation of the award to Judge Arnold;
- Funding is contingent on Judge Morris Arnold granting permission to be so honored.

The motion passed as proposed.

Chair Judge Kopf and President Lyford then outlined the steps to be taken:

1. Ms. Greenbaum will email Mr. Klafter to accomplish the following in writing:
 - a) confirm that ASLH does in fact want to honor Judge Arnold;

b) convey that the Historical Society stipulates that the award be a Lifetime Achievement Award;

c) confirm the date ASLH plans to have the Welcome Reception; (It has been understood that the reception would be held on a Thursday night. This must be adhered to, as the Historical Society can only hold the reception in the Eagleton Courthouse on a week night.)

d) convey the terms of the motion passed by the Executive Committee.

Ms. Greenbaum will then forward Mr. Klafter's email response to notify the Executive Committee of the outcome of their communication.

2. With the above confirmed in writing, Ms. Ross will make initial contact with Judge Arnold to see if he is amenable to being honored by ASLH. Frances will then notify the Executive Committee as to his reaction.

3. With Judge Arnold's agreement to be honored, the presidents of the Eighth Circuit Historical Society and ASLH will formally notify Judge Arnold of his award by letter.

4. Ms. Fessenden and Ms. Voelker will work with the Circuit Executive's Office on securing a caterer.

5. Fund raising will begin.

- Mr. Lyford will contact the Iowa bar;
- Mr. Boyd will contact the Eighth Circuit Bar Association;
- Ms. Ross will contact the Arkansas Bar;
- Ms. Greenbaum will confirm support from BAMSL;
- Judge Kopf will contact the Nebraska branch.

Ms. Ross inquired and it was confirmed that the Historical Society would fund attendance for the ASLH meeting.

Written Histories

Frances Ross happily announced that she delivered the manuscript copy of the biographical essays of Arkansas' federal judges to the University of Arkansas Press on January 7. It is hoped that minimal editing will be required.

Judge Kopf said that Senior Judge Urbom's memoir, "a nice piece of recent history," is in the final stages of editing with the University of Nebraska Press. Dr. John Wunder [currently working with Dr. Mark Scherer on a written history of the District of Nebraska] thinks very highly of the manuscript. Judge Kopf said that Judge Urbom is an excellent writer and noted that

the University of Nebraska Press is not charging to publish the book. He said the Nebraska branch of the Historical Society intends to purchase a large number of copies and distribute them to public high schools.

Next Meeting

President Lyford scheduled the next meeting of the Executive Committee for Wednesday, April 13, at noon.

There being no other business, the conference call adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Fessenden, Secretary