

MINUTES
Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit
Executive Committee Conference Call
May 2, 2012 1:00 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 January 30, 2012 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Greenbaum summarized the donations made to the Historical Society to support two current projects.

Donations totaling \$600 were deposited in the Historical Society's court of appeals branch account to fund Judge Bright's oral history, recorded December 8, 2011. The funds came from the following donors:

Nick Vogel	\$200
Thomas H. Boyd	\$300
Richard A. Lockridge	\$100

Donations totaling \$5,250 were deposited into the Historical Society's parent account to fund the American Society for Legal History reception honoring Judge Morris S. Arnold, to be held November 2012. The funds came from the following donors:

Attorney Admission Fee Fund for the Southern District of Iowa	\$750
Eighth Circuit Bar Association	\$500
Federal Practice Fund, U.S. District Court, Nebraska	\$2,000
Library Fund, U.S. District Fund, Northern District of Iowa	\$2,000

Ms. Greenbaum pointed out that \$2,250 was still needed to cover the cost of the reception. It was noted that the Historical Society was still hoping to hear from the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis and the Arkansas Bar Association.

Web Updates

Ms. Voelker reported that the parent annual report and the IRS e-filing receipts had been posted to the Historical Society web site.

2012 Judicial Conference, Aug. 8-10 in Kansas City, Marriott Downtown Hotel

The discussion began with Tom Boyd, who recounted the story of Minnesota District Judge Gunnar Nordbye's Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference tradition. He said that Judge Nordbye [who served on the court 1932-1977] would gather attendees on the roof of the conference hotel at the break of dawn to salute the opening of the conference with a shot of whiskey. He noted that Judge Lay, who joined the Eighth Circuit later, also partook of the tradition, but substituted orange juice for whiskey. Mr. Boyd then proposed that the Historical Society resurrect this tradition. The executive committee thought this was a grand idea. It was agreed that the Historical Society meeting would begin with a salute to the conference, accompanied by a shot of the beverage of individual choice.

a) Breakfast Board meeting (Thurs., Aug. 9, 7:00 a.m.)

In discussing menu selections for the breakfast board meeting, Secretary Fessenden told the committee that she had learned that the Circuit Executive's Office would be providing a substantial continental breakfast buffet the day of the meeting to all conference attendees. She said she had contacted them to see whether it would be feasible to utilize the buffet for the Historical Society attendees rather than purchasing a separate breakfast. The Circuit Executive's Office indicated this would be possible, though some adjustments might be needed in the timing of the buffet and Historical Society meeting. Ms. Fessenden summarized options. After some discussion, the executive committee decided that the board would meet at its regularly scheduled meeting time of 7:00-8:00 a.m., be served beverages, and be invited to partake in the continental breakfast buffet following the meeting. Ms. Fessenden said she would look into costs for providing beverages for the Historical Society board meeting.

It was noted that an agenda must be sent out to the board 30 days prior to the meeting.

b) Election of officers for 2012-2014

There was a suggestion to nominate the current officers for reelection and a suggestion to open the offices up to those outside the current circle, in order to insure that the process is perceived as fair. In discussing how to carry this out, the executive committee decided to notify board members and other interested parties that the offices were up for reelection by posting an announcement on the Historical Society's public web site and by including the announcement in the notice of the board meeting that is emailed to board members. In this way, board members may nominate persons before or at the board meeting. It was agreed that Ms. Voelker would draft information for posting on the web site and for inclusion in the board meeting notice.

c) Display area - Bright display, Bright and Eisele DVDs

Discussion turned to the display area at the Judicial Conference. Ms. Fessenden told the executive committee that requests had been made to have a display on Judge Bright and to show two looping DVDs—Judge Bright's December 2011 oral history and Judge Eisele's recent documentary conveying his life and career. She said the library would take care of providing the display and the looping DVDs and would work with the Circuit Executive's Office to arrange the equipment and space needs.

d) Show and Share of branches at board meeting

The executive committee agreed that it would repeat the 2010 meeting's show and share table. This provides board members with a vehicle for showcasing their efforts and sharing ideas for projects. When the notice of the board meeting is sent out, the board will be asked to contribute to the show and share table.

Reception of the American Society for Legal History (ASLH), Thurs., Nov. 8, 2012

a) Caterer contract/Building use permit

Ms. Greenbaum reported that a contract had been signed with Patty Long Catering, and Ms. Fessenden said that a building use permit had been acquired.

b) Costs/Funds currently available

This information was covered during the Treasurer's report, above.

c) Honoring Judge Arnold

The question again arose as to how Judge Arnold will be recognized. The executive committee concurred that it would be appropriate for a member of the Arkansas bar to make comments, and Ms. Ross said she would pursue this. Ms. Greenbaum agreed to contact ASLH to clarify how they plan to recognize Judge Arnold.

d) Attendance - Can donors attend? Who attends from the Historical Society?

The executive committee agreed that the reception would be open to any contributors.

The committee also agreed that it would like ASLH to grant 10 free conference registrations for Eighth Circuit Historical Society members. The ASLH meeting and reception will be announced at the board meeting in August to see if anyone would benefit from attending the ASLH conference.

Next meeting

The date of the next conference call meeting was discussed and agreed upon as **Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 1:00 p.m.**

There being no other business, the conference call meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Fessenden, Secretary