

Durand Heritage Foundation
Minutes of meeting April 18, 1999

Those present:
Mike Durand, pres.
John Durand, V.P
Susanne Krasovich, treas.
Roger Durand
Dick Durand
Mary Kay Brusegard
Derek Brusegard
Joanne Berres

Those absent:
Elizabeth Kinslow, sec., Cecile Foley, co-treas, Jeanne Sansovini

Meeting started with a welcome by Mike Durand, president.

The minutes of the last meeting were read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. Minutes were approved by all as read.

Mike handed out the Year-end statement for 1998 and Year-to-date statement for 1999.

Susanne then read the treasurer's report.

Dick felt there was some ambiguity regarding Membership for 1999. He felt we should separate the membership totals with payment made last year, with those from this year's totals and that this should be reflected in the \$375.00 amount. John agreed.

A motion was then made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report with the above correction. The treasurer's report was then approved by all.

Mark Kay said the Web site has added value to the foundation and that it should help increase our membership. Roger and Dick agreed. Derek said we had over 5000 hits on our site, for a recent monthly total.

Attention was then turned to the proposed budget. Mike thanked Derek for his contributions.

Mike then handed out the proposed budget. John noted that the proposed budget figures had an calculation error. The total amount to produce the each newsletter, \$225.00 X four publications equals \$900.00 not \$1000.00. All agreed. Mike said he would adjust the figures to reflect this.

Mary Kay questioned how Mike came up with a mailing for 100 copies. Mike explained past mailing numbers and the costs of printing the newsletter.

He said it was more profitable to print 100 than a lesser number. And, with memberships at 55, he felt the remainder could be used to hand out or send out to promote more memberships and for advertising. Mary Kay then suggested bringing back copies to the reunion next year and selling them.

It was agreed that an individual purchase price of somewhere around \$3.75 would be appropriate for individual issues.

Mike said he would like the Foundation to be incorporated, because the advantage would be to gain a tax exempt status, and also allow us to open a checking account. He explained some of the fees shown on the proposed budget sheet, noting that these would be necessary to get tax-exempt status. The IRS and Minnesota state fees are fixed amounts.

Susanne questioned whether the registration should be with the State of Minnesota, or Wisconsin.

After some discussion it was agreed to pursue registration in Minnesota.

Mike also explained that we are bound by a 15 month time period to apply for a tax-exempt status from the time we originally formed. Our 15 month grace period will end in the fall. In order to be incorporated, we need by-laws. We can pay an attorney to help us do this for a fee of between \$800 and \$1500, or we can do it ourselves.

Mike told us he had met someone who heads the Business Economics Education Association who told him about a seminar, (Management Assistance Program) for non-profit organizations. The "MAP" seminar, helps non-profit organizations wanting to incorporate. For a seminar cost of \$300.00, we can send as many members as we want to, to attend the seminar, and that we can get continued help after the seminar if we need it. The seminar will explain step by step what we need to do to become incorporated.

Roger thought this was an excellent idea. Both Mike and Susanne expressed interest in attending the seminar. Mike will look into upcoming seminar dates and inform those interested in attending.

Mike asked if there were any other ideas to help us incorporate besides attending the seminar. He mentioned we could borrow another corporation's by-laws if we felt we couldn't put together our own in the required time. The problem with this is that we would have to type or enter all the data and information manually. The seminar through map provides everything on a diskette.

John mentioned that if we incorporate we will have to keep detailed records on expenses etc. and was Mike sure he wanted to do that. Mike responded he had no problem with this. He would like the tax reporting and corresponding to be the responsibility of the secretary and or treasurer so he can concentrate on the fund raising.

This brought up Elizabeth's position on the board. She has not been able to make the last two meetings due to time and distance constraints. We discussed whether or not she should give up the secretary position to allow someone else who can make the meetings to take over this position. Susanne said she would be happy to do this.

Mary Kay felt it was important for the board members to try to make all of the meetings.

Roger thought Mike should contact Elizabeth about possibly relinquishing her position and or to discuss her status. Mike said he would do that.

We then reviewed the proposed Durand Heritage Foundation mission statements, drafted by John Durand. Mary Kay and Susanne felt we should

eliminate the words 'North America' since this is limiting ourselves. Roger agreed and made a motion to strike those words but to accept the rest. Dick felt we should add the words, 'ancestors and descendants'. He then made a new motion to accept both changes. Mary Kay seconded the motion. The motion was passed by all present to eliminate 'North America' and add 'ancestors and descendants'.

The next order of business was whether or not we could put an English translation of Aunt Bea's book on the web site.

Susanne said she had written to Les Clercs de Saint Viateur de Canada, (in French) ,requesting permission to publish an English translation of the book, to make corrections where necessary, and to update it. The response she received giving the sought after permission to do so was in French, so she translated the letter for all. All were happy to receive this news.

Dick then showed us a letter he received in 1995, from these same Brothers, in response to a letter he had written. With this letter, he was given permission to translate the book to English.

Roger thought we should get the copyright from Aunt Beatrice's book from the Derrick boys because this would be the proper way to proceed.

Mike said he didn't think Aunt Beatrice's book was copyrighted. Richard said Marie Johnson did the translation and got paid for it. Roger added that any works could be considered copy write and he didn't think that it need to be stated as such, and that it was implied.

John felt we should clean up the introduction to the book. Mike, mentioned that he was in the process of entering the book on a diskette, but that the text had many typographical errors and needed a lot of work. He thought he would be finished with this project sometime this summer or fall.

Roger told us the priests had access to research in the 1920's and 1930's for the book. He also said Eldon Durand, a descendant who lived in Kentucky, (has?) had the original information, and that he is the one the priests got their information from. He felt redoing Beatrice's book would take a long time and that if we were to do this, we should do a little at a time.

Mike said we need to recognize Beatrice for all the time and effort she put into the book.

Dick said we should recognize all the contributors.

Roger said we need to get a release from all Beatrice's sons; to get their permission to use her work as a basis for a new edition. Mike asked Roger if he would draft a letter to request permission since he is Chairman of the Research Committee, and he said he would.

Dick said he didn't feel there would be any problem with getting not only permission from her sons, but also to request some of her other original work from them. He said he would ask them for this permission. He thought we would contact Lauren, Bill and Galen Derrick, sons of Beatrice, to discuss the release from them, after Roger drafts the letter.

Break for lunch

We began with discussion of mission statements. (See attached Mission Statement sheets).

Research Committee Mission Statement presented by Roger.

Roger asked how we could implement the information to get the younger generation of Durand descendants interested in doing research.

John said that those in school could do research as a school project

Roger said he would try to prioritize his interest to see if it generates interest

Dick said that generations would have a starting point by starting with us

Mike said Ellen was thinking of doing something on the Durand family for her Master's degree. He also felt that in the future the foundation might be able to sponsor someone doing such work.

Membership Committee Mission Statement presented by Mary Kay

Roger asked if the membership committee was with marketing.

Mary Kay said she felt marketing was necessary to expand the membership.

Mike felt we have a good root system for expansion, noting some interested persons in various parts of the United States to call on to help promotion.

Mary Kay would like to see a table at the reunion with information on how to join the foundation.

Joanne volunteered to help with that.

Mike was happy Joanne had volunteered to help. He questioned if the social and membership committees would remain as one.

Mary Kay replied, "Yes".

Susanne asked about social events.

Mary Kay responded there were no social events planned at this time, perhaps there would be in the future.

Newsletter Mission Statement presented by Mike

Mike commented that there was progress with each newsletter. He was very pleased with the response he received on the last newsletter. He would like to see a picture on the cover of each newsletter in the future.

Susanne reiterated her statement from a previous meeting saying she would like a pictorial history to go with the written history.

Mike thought this was something we could do in the future.

Family Stories Mission Statement presented by John

John spoke of his source of information for the article he did on his father mentioning that he has his father's diary so all the information was documented. He added that it was necessary to put it into readable form.

Everyone thought the article was outstanding and we would all like to see more such stories.

Return to resolution to incorporate

Mike asked if anyone had any questions from our earlier discussion, and presented the resolution to incorporate, which he drafted.

No one had any questions.

John made a motion to accept the resolution. Roger seconded it.

Before a vote could be taken, some discussion took place.

Mike said there would be approximately \$520.00 out of pocket expenses that he would try to pay for himself, because there is not presently enough money for the Durand Heritage Foundation to do so. John felt we should find a way to finance that so Mike doesn't have to pay for it himself.

Dick questioned if we shouldn't try to incorporate ourselves after all.

Mike responded that if it was not done correctly we could be rejected for incorporation, and not receive tax exempt status, from the Internal Revenue Service.

Roger added that if we hope to get donations we want to proceed correctly.

He also agreed with John that Mike should not have to pay these expenses himself.

John suggested announcing in the next newsletter that we are incorporating and ask for donations explicitly for this purpose.

Resolution to incorporate was passed.

Open Forum followed.

John complimented Mike on the excellent newsletter and all his efforts.

Mike thanked all for their help and support.

Susanne thanked Mike, Roger and Dick for starting the movement.

John talked about the need to raise money.

Mary Kay said Derek was looking for a cheaper web site server to help pare costs.

A discussion about using bulk mail or third class 'book' rates ensued.

Mike will contact post office about this.

John mentioned that the T-shirts that were sold at the last reunion were well received. He would like to see a good quality shirt with the family motto and crest embroidered on it with the capability to add the name. He also said there would be no need for a large inventory; that we could do one at a time if necessary; and, that the most profit could be gained from a sweatshirt rather than a T-shirt.

Dick wants the motto in English.

John said it could be done in either French or English.

Roger suggested a CD.

Susanne asked about having the crest framed. She thought many people would like to have the family crest hanging in their homes; that they would make good gifts for Christmas; and that these could be done quite inexpensively but that they look very nice. They could be sold framed or unframed if desired.

Joanne felt we could ask for donations outright.

Mike wanted to know who would do this?

John replied he would.

A discussion followed on the design of the crest. Should we adopt the one Aunt Beatrice has in her book, the one the Association of Durand families in Canada has, or design one ourselves? Susanne said we should all bring our ideas to the next meeting so we could be ready to sell for Christmas.

Mike then asked if Joanne would help Mary Kay at the reunion 2000. She replied her sister Joyce would be good at this, and she would ask Joyce if she would be willing to help.

Dick wanted to know how other Durand families could be invited to the reunion 2000? He feels anyone with the name Durand should be able to come. Roger will try to get the word out on his side of the family and felt we could use the web site to advertise it. He also feels someone should contact the Association of Durand Families in Canada.

Susanne said she would do that.

Roger showed us the website.

Mike said he was giving Derrick some new software.

Dick said he was not presently using the Internet, and that he wanted to concentrate on updating the family tree where Aunt Beatrice's book left off.

Next meeting was set for October 10, 1999.