

**Durand Heritage Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes of April 8th, 2000**

Those present:

Mike Durand, President
John Durand, Vice-President
Susanne Krasovich, Acting Secretary/Treasurer
Roger Durand
Mary Kay Brusegard
Blanche and Marvin Hammer
Marilyn Durand

Absent

Richard Durand & Joanne Berres

Mike opened the meeting by thanking all for attending, and also thanked Blanche and Marvin Hammer for hosting the meeting

Susanne read the minutes of the last meeting.

Roger made a motion to approve the minutes.

John seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Susanne then gave the treasurer's report starting with the year-end 1999 report. Before the treasurer's report was approved, several questions were raised.

John asked for clarification of the Card Services fee.

Mike qualified the expense by explaining that the fee is associated with our on line credit card processing for new membership and other products, i.e.. back issues of the newsletters, books etc.. He feels this is a great medium for people who don't want to take the time to mail in a registration. He explained that this is a standard cost for doing business on the web, ensuring customers that their orders are secure and encrypted. He said we are committed to 48 months with a 2.7% or \$20.00 minimum user fee charge each month, plus the monthly fee of \$49.95.

Susanne then presented the annual projected year 2000 budget report prepared by Mike. Mike then explained how he came up with the projected budget, and made reference to the year to date Financial Statement 1999. These are projections only and are thought to be realistic projections based on past performance.

Susanne read the year to date Financial Statement 2000 report, prepared by Mike.

Mike explained the statement and how all three of these expense sheets, projected budget etc.. were intertwined.

Mary Kay noticed that the \$20.00 monthly fee for the Web was missing from the expenses column.

Roger expressed concern that the newsletter/membership fees are not meeting our overall organizational costs.

Mike said that for the long term, the newsletter should and would not be able to cover all the organizations costs, since it is produced and mailed pretty close to cost. Especially, since we have added many new features added since our founding, i.e.. web-site, book publishing, on-line credit card processing etc..

Roger asked how would we meet our costs? Roger wants to make sure that if we sell a three-year membership, that there will be an organization in three years. Discussion followed about raising membership costs in the near future, (by 2001). Roger wants to re-evaluate our costs and be able to let people know at the reunion what we need to be solvent.

John asked if we could discuss financial goals or possible fundraising ideas now. He feels we should build a sustaining fund. He would like to have a plan in place before the reunion.

Mike said that he has thought about fundraising efforts and envisions that eventually we could also have a Trust fund and create a separate fundraising committee. He also said that we might look to someone other than a current board members to head such a committee.

John then suggested selling space in the back of the *Jean Durand and His Descendants* book as memorandums by family members to cover the book printing costs. Mike suggested they cover the other agenda items and return later to fundraising.

No decision to have a sustaining fund was reached at this time, and the issue was tabled until later.

John made a motion to approve the 1999 year end report.

Blanche seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Mike said we would need to revise the projected budget if the approval is given for the book publishing. Mike also said he would like to make extra copies of the past newsletters available for sale at the reunion, and that he would have to print additional copies of past editions when the inventory runs out.

Mary suggested taking orders instead of printing extra copies.

Discussion followed on whether to print extra copies or take orders.

Discussion ended with all agreeing it would be best to do both.

The next item on the agenda was concerning filling the Secretary's position.

Susanne said that it might be easier to have someone who lives nearby to be the Treasurer and she would be interested in the Secretary position instead of her acting Secretary position. She added she would continue in both positions until someone could be found to fill the Treasurer's position.

John said at some point we could have a budget committee and the treasurer could be on that committee.

Mike said he would put a notice in the summer newsletter asking if there were someone in the Minneapolis area interested in the position, perhaps with a CPA background. It was agreed upon by all that Susanne would continue in both positions until a Treasurer could be found.

Mike then went over the newly adopted Articles of Incorporation and asked if there was any questions.
No discussion.

Mike then went over the By-Laws.

John feels it would be a good idea to have an Annual meeting as defined in our By Laws. A discussion followed on when to have the annual meeting. Susanne made a motion to have the annual meeting in October. Mary Kay seconded the motion.

More discussion followed.

Mike again asked for a question on the motion.

Motion was passed.

Mike then announced that he as President had some awards he wanted to present as a way of expressing his gratitude for all that the Board had accomplished thus far. Awards given were presented to:

The **President's Award** for extraordinary skills and dedication in their assistance with the preservation of the Durand family heritage were awarded to Roger Durand and Richard Durand for their countless hours spent researching the family tree and entering data on electronic media, and to Ronald and Marianne Balding, and Anita Oakey for their new translation of the *Jean Durand et sa Posterite* book.

Blanche & Marvin Hammer and Susanne Krasovich received an award for **Ambassadors of the Year Award**.

Derek Brusegard received the **Outstanding Young Citizen award** for his countless hours of assisting Mike with the web site construction.

Irene Harris and Connie Swanson received the **Grand Champion Sponsor Award** for bringing in the most new members (12).

John Durand received the **Best Article of the Year Award** for his article entitled "My father in France".

Marilyn Durand received the **Amerindian Princess Award** for the many hours spent with data entry, organizational support and supporting her husband Mike. Mike proposed that similar awards be handed out each year.

Break for Lunch

Mike re-convened the meeting with the Newsletter Committee report mentioning the importance of quality control, and the necessity to have a diversity of content mixing both new and old stories as well as having stories about all branches of Durand's. Also, Great Classical photos appear to be of high interest to our readers.

Research Committee

Roger reported on the translation Ronald Balding completed of the *Jean Durand et sa Posterite* book. Ronald Balding forwarded a master copy of the file to Roger for publication. He asked if we wanted to get a printing on better quality printing (@ \$8.00 for 200 copies or on lesser quality printing @ \$9.00 for 100 copies.

All agreed to use the better quality printing. Roger also said that he and Carol would pay for the first printing out of their own pockets and the Foundation could reimburse them when it has the money. Motion was made and passed to authorize the printing of 200 copies of the new translation. It was also agreed to market the book for \$15.95 each and \$1.50 shipping and handling cost.

John suggested putting the words "first edition" in the book to increase its future value. I-Ie also asked about getting donations and/or a sponsor list to help support the costs of printing. It was decided not to go ahead without the sponsorship at this time as that would hold up the printing.

Fundraising goal

John said he thinks we should eventually have a marketing plan. Iie would like to add a fundraising committee with the chairperson to possibly be a member of the board. Blanche made a motion to form a fundraising committee Roger seconded the motion

Discussion followed:

Mary suggested making an announcement at the reunion asking for volunteers to be part of the fundraising committee.

Mike asked John if would be willing to head up the fundraising efforts and make a list of potential people to serve on the committee. John can also recommend a chairperson for the fundraising committee. John said he would assume that responsibility. Mike assured John, that he would assist him.

Mike again called for a question on the motion.

Motion was passed.

Next meeting was set for October 22, 2000 to be held at the home of Joanne Berres. If this is not possible, Roger volunteered to have the meeting at his home. Roger made a motion to accept the date and place for the next meeting. John seconded the motion.

Motion was passed.

Meeting was adjourned.