

**Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee Notes in Lieu of Minutes
La Crosse Radisson
October 8, 2016, 10:00-4:00**

(recorded by Joy Shong)

A. Tour of Hotel Spaces

- a. Concerns:
 - i. Security of vendor wares in the proposed hallway area which cannot be locked. Hotel offered to hang drape at corridor entrance to block visually. At this time our group has the entire hotel blocked and there are no other groups scheduled. (Can this change?)
 - ii. Hospitality location in the hall has access to water in kitchen, but there was not a staging area for the food. We need to ask the hotel about options. Can the hall in front of the genealogy lab by the kitchen door be used for staging?
 - iii. Board room can be used as staging area or security for registration materials
 - iv. Wi-Fi in genealogy lab had strong signal

B. Current membership list, Status of officers and Committee assignments.

- a. The Membership list was reviewed and updated.
 - i. Genealogy Lab Coordinator for 2017: John Reindl
 - ii. John Reindl will take over Publicity
 - iii. Remove Mary Amundson
 - iv. Shirley Schoenfeld will manage Vendors. Dick will contact Mary to coordinate transferring the vendor materials
- b. Additional updates to be confirmed:
 - i. Elaine Hasleton – ask if she will continue to help with publicity
 - ii. Linda Schwartz – ask if she will continue to coordinate catering
- c. Officers and voting members
 - i. Officers same as last year: Dick chairman, Dixie vice chair, Nancy secretary, Ron treasurer
 - ii. Anne Farning – replaced Dick Lundgren as voting member
 - iii. Linda Schwartz replaced by Robert Fossum as voting member

C. Secretary's minutes from last meeting (March 21, 2015) – approved as printed

D. Treasurer's report (Current financial status)

Balance reported: \$5379.35

- a. Donations of \$150 each to Luther Seminary for Muskego Church tour and to Norway House were approved. The check for Luther Seminary should be sent to Paul Daniels.
- b. Refunds to lags – Will be revised after the \$300 donations are deducted
 - i. Gudbrandsdal – 1464.57
 - ii. NHOH – 977.95
 - iii. Tronderlag = 1106.83
- c. The bank account should have two people with the ability to manage the account and sign checks. Anne Farning was suggested to be added along with Ron Helstad since she lives

in the La Crosse area and would have easier access to the bank than other members. She will be contacted to see if she is willing. If not, then Shirley Schoenfeld said she could.

E. Combined 2016 Reports and 2017 Plans

- a. Review of 2016 Stevne Evaluations
 - i. The evaluation provided a good summary of the pros and cons of the steven, and listed the suggestions for improvement and topics.
 - ii. The main 'take aways' from the evaluations was to pass on the suggestions to the appropriate people/subcommittees; e.g. topic suggestions go to the program planning team; continue movie night, etc.
- b. Hospitality:
 - i. The Kearin's would like assistance with manning the hospitality area. Each lag will be responsible staffing blocks of time.
 - ii. Shirley will contact the local Sons of Norway to see if they can help
 - iii. Need to encourage people to bring more Norwegian food and less generic food.
- c. Opening Ceremony and Memorial
 - i. It was agreed after some discussion to keep Time of Remembering in the opening ceremony
 - ii. The length of the Opening ceremony has run long in the past. We can adjust the time allocated and do the following
 1. Local dignitaries will not be invited to give a greeting.
 2. Lag presidents and the Fellesraad President will still provide greeting, but be given a time limit.
- d. Program and Schedule
 - i. Robert recommended that the Chairman appoint a committee to develop a list of program ideas and speakers to be presented to the steering committee for approval. (The goal is to have the program theme and topics ready for the spring newsletters for promotion.)
 - ii. We will start with the same event and presentation times shown on the Agenda Grid and make adjustments if needed depending on tour options selected, and speaker availability.
- e. Entertainment
 - i. Dave Engen was a great hit
 - ii. Shirley Schoenfeld will try to arrange for Steven Marking to do his presentation of river songs.
- f. Facilities/local arrangements
 - i. Dixie and Shirley will negotiate prices with the hotel for rooms, coffee, and other contract needs. Quoted rates are \$135 and \$145; 85 rooms are being held.
 - ii. Breakfast is not included in the room charge.
 - iii. The hotel is willing to fly a Norwegian flag on the poles out front.
- g. Tour ideas
 - i. River cruise on one of the riverboats. Saturday morning could be an alternate time for a cruise. Don't have food on the boat.
 - ii. Norskedalen (has new church from Sparta) and Westbey

iii. Local La Crosse – Granddad’s Bluff; important building and houses; Trolley; libraries with

h. Publicity –

i. John Reindl will take over. Elaine will be asked to contribute ideas.

i. Registration

i. Dixie would like someone to take over preparing the program book and designing the cover. Helen Scherer and Nancy Pickering were suggested as contacts to ask.

F. Site selection committee, needs one member from each lag

a. Shirley Schoenfeld was only on for 2016

b. 2017 Committee: N - Dixie Hansen, G - Dick Lundgren , T - Robert Fossum

c. 2018 Fergus Falls suggested by Dick. Three years of locations were previously agreed upon. [From October 2015 minutes: 2017 La Crosse, WI; 2018 Austin, MN; 2019 Rochester, MN]

G. Vendors

a. Karen Mullen would like to be a vendor in 2017

b. General discussion: having vendors should be a draw for some potential attendees; fewer vendors of Norwegian items are available due to retirement, age and costs; lower sales since many people already have many of the items for sale, and may be downsizing; our attendance is lower so provide a smaller pool of shoppers; competition for dollars if too many vendors; space is an issue.

H. Theme

“Where the 3 Rivers Meet”

Relate the 3 lags with the meeting of the Mississippi, Black River and La Crosse rivers

- Can include topics on the importance of rivers as paths to the norther settlements

I. Speaker Ideas

a. The future Program Committee can consider the following topics and speakers:

i. Review the suggestions in the evaluation summary – especially more genealogy

ii. Mississippi conservancy

iii. Norwegian history

iv. Emigration stories

v. State/county histories

vi. History of Wisconsin (Midwest) before the Europeans arrived; can include geography of area

vii. Raptor center

viii. Glenn Boreson

J. Next Meeting/Place/Time

January 14 with January 21 as backup date for weather

10:00 am at Radisson in La Crosse (possibly in one of the Wisconsin rooms)