

KENNEDY SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

STONE MOUNTAIN GEORGIA GAMES

Call to Order and Determining Quorum: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm and a quorum was determined. Those in attendance included: Kona Gant, Mary Lynn Grant, Nomon Kennedy Sr., Dave Carrick, Eugene Kennedy, Frank Kennedy, Randy Peterson, Ann Blackmore Key, Paul Key, Lynda Kennedy, Glenn Kennedy, Elaine Heskett, Neil Brussard, Janet Brussard, Chris Kennedy, Sue Kennedy, Larry Huff, and Suzanne Huff. There were 17 proxies mailed in as well.

OLD BUSINESS

Approval of 2011 Minutes– The 2011 Annual Meeting Minutes were approved with a motion by Glenn Kennedy to approve the minutes as presented, and a 2nd by Randy Peterson. The vote to approve the 2011 Minutes was passed unanimously.

“Password” Discussion: A discussion then ensued about the passwords used to enter the Members Area of the Kennedy Society website. It was stated that these passwords have never been changed since the inception of the website members’ area. The attendees were of the opinion that these passwords (and the wealth of information that they unlock) should not be available to former members or to others who might have been told the passwords. A suggestion was made to change these passwords at the membership renewal time. A motion to this affect was made by Nomon and seconded by Frank. A discussion followed where it was stated that this procedure would be an excellent idea and it was felt that changing the passwords would help us keep members in order to have access to the website members’ area. It was further decided that the membership chairman, along with a small committee should decide what the new passwords should be. The new passwords would be distributed at the dues renewal time. A vote was called and the result was a unanimous decision to go forward with the new password plan as stated above.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Report and Slate of Officers: The Nominating Committee consists of Nomon Kennedy (Chairman), Joel Cassells, and Mike Kennedy. Nomon thanked the present officers who had served for the past year. Nomon then offered the slate of officers for the year 2013. The officer list remains the same as in 2012 – Chris Kennedy – Pres/Chief, Bill Kennedy – V Pres/Deputy Chief, Sue Kennedy – Secretary, and Glenn Kennedy – Treasurer. Nomon then asked for nominations from the floor; hearing none the nominations were closed. A unanimous vote was taken and the slate of officers for 2013 was approved.

Appointment of Chieftains and Committee Chairpersons: Chris informed the group that all Chieftains and Committee Chairman had agreed to serve another year.

By-Law Revisions: At this time Chris presented the proposed By-Law revisions. The most important revision deals with the length of the terms of office of the Pres/Chief and V Pres/Deputy Chief. Chris stated that the present five year term causes a 10 year commitment for a Vice President/Deputy Chief to serve as V Pres and then President. The by-law revision changes the length of these terms from 5 years to 4 years. Nomon commented that the Society probably has enough people coming through the ranks to accommodate the shorter term of service. This by-law revision will not go in to affect until the 2014 Annual Meeting. A motion was

made by Nomon and seconded by Marianne Elaine Heskett to approve the by-law revision. The motion was passed by the group unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The treasury report was presented by Glenn. This report is attached to the annual meeting minutes. Paul Key made a motion we accept the treasurer's report and Frank seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief's Report: Chris briefly mentioned how well the Stone Mountain Games were going and how well the Curling Club/Ailsa Craig Exhibit was being received. Chris told us that the Charlotte (Loch Normon) games were planning to do the same exhibit as Charlotte also had a new curling club.

Chris then began a discussion of the new ladies t-shirt. This new shirt is generic and should appeal to ladies of any clan. The vendor price is half the cost of the first shirt we introduced so we should make a much bigger profit. Chris went on to thank Bill and Terry Kennedy and Hope Kennedy for their efforts in making the t-shirts a reality.

The Kennedy Society's 40th Anniversary will be held at Maryville TN (Smoky Mountains Highland Games) to be held May 17-19 2013. There will be several special events taking place for the celebration.

The 2014 Annual Meeting will take place at the Greenville Highland Games in May of 2014. This Annual Meeting will be where we transition from Chief Chris Kennedy to Chief Bill Kennedy.

Other topics that Chris covered were: a new kilt ceremony in which any tent convener can "christen" a new kilt or tartan. This ceremony will be available shortly. A "Kennedy Quiz" will begin where questions on our Kennedy history will be placed on Facebook and prizes will be awarded. Look for more on the "Kennedy Quiz" in future newsletters.

2014 Tour: Lord Charles then spoke about the tour being planned for Scotland in 2014. The tour was originally planned around Stirling Castle but now the dates and the location have changed to the Bannockburn Re-enactment centering sometime between June 24-July 11. Most of the plans are still fluid and so we should just refrain from any further plans until the dates and activities are firm. Lord Charles did tell us that the tour will end with a dinner at Culzean Castle, providing we have a minimum of 20 people on the tour.

Deputy Chief Report: Bill sent his regrets as he was unable to attend due to work commitments.

Chief First Class Retired Report: Nomon reported he has been answering the Kennedy website guestbook entries.

Membership Report: Lynn Grant reported that as of the meeting we have 46 new members this year. It should be noted that by the end of the Stone Mountain games we now have 48 new members. This figure is way ahead of our normal average of 28-30 new members per year. We lack 35 renewals from 2010 and we lack 50 renewals from 2011. We have 26 lifetime members on the membership roll. It was assigned to the Chieftains to call or email their non-renewals and see if we can collect some of these people and their dues. It was suggested that we should re-design the membership form to include a box to check "cash" or "credit". Chris told the group that Mike Kennedy in California will be trying on-line memberships at his next game. This on-line process will include filling out the membership form on line and paying one's dues by credit card as well.

Newsletter Report: Ann Key asked that we please differentiate whether an individual wants their newsletter by email or hardcopy. She asked that the pictures we turn in be downsized to one mg. If sender does not have

computer knowledge/capability to downsize, to please email only a copy of pictures per email. Otherwise her server will not accept the email.

Web Master: Nina wanted everyone to know that the Merchandising page was up on the website. She also reminded us we should contribute pictures to the Shutterfly site.

Carrick Tartan: Chris then recognized Dave Carrick who was wearing his Carrick tartan kilt. David explained to us that the Carrick tartan is what is known as a regional tartan and is another choice for we Kennedys who wish to wear an accepted tartan.

Woven Blankets: Kona Gant shared with us a beautiful woven blanket 60x60 which could be a good money-raising project. We must have 24 blankets to run our first order. We will look into this project further.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Kennedy, Secretary, Kennedy Society of North America