

Evanston History Center
Annual Meeting
June, 2018

The 121st annual meeting of the Evanston History Center was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Sharon Ephraim, president, with a quorum of more than 30 members present.

Sharon introduced herself and thanked the Tawani Foundation for the \$250,000 challenge grant they are providing for the capital campaign. She offered kudos to the board and staff.

Board secretary Janet Neiman Reed presented the minutes and moved for their approval. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Executive Director Eden Juron Pearlman outlined some of the current endeavors of the History Center, including fine-tuning plans for the next renovation projects; raising more than \$2 million for those projects; and building on the center's recent first experience with a rented exhibit by hosting a large-scale exhibit on Prohibition planned for 2019. She touted the accomplishments of board and staff in undertaking the On-the-Go tours, which will include another CTA tour in the fall, as well as the launch of EHC Press to publish books in house, beginning with education director Dr. Jenny Thompson's forthcoming work about the takeover of Northwestern University's Bursar's office building in 1968. She also congratulated costume curator Janet Messmer, who retired after 27 years with EHC.

Treasurer Max Grebenchikov provided members with a financial overview of the fiscal year through May, showing operating income of \$271,000, or 87% of the operating budget, with expenses of \$391,000 out of a \$491,000 budget. He said Northern Trust operates as advisor on about \$2 million worth of investments, while Schwab handles an endowment of about \$113,000. Sharon added that EHC basically broke even for the year, noting that movie or commercial shoots at Dawes House bring in significant income when they occur.

Judy Koehler, vice president for governance, presented the names of Dale Bradley, Paul Burton, Mike Ford, Rick Hubbard and Wynn Shawver for renewed two-year terms on the EHC Board of Trustees. Their terms were approved unanimously. Judy then offered an amendment to replacing the wording of article X of the EHC bylaws adopted on June 10, 2015, as follows:

Section 2. Standing Committees

b. A **Human Resources Committee**, chaired by a Vice President, shall be responsible for all matters relating to the staff and administrative offices of the Center (sic). The Human Resources Committee will make recommendations to the Board with respect to hiring an Executive whenever a vacancy shall occur in that position. The Human Resources Committee will review the performance of the Executive Director annually and make recommendations to the Board regarding all matters related to compensation and employee benefits. The Human Resources Committee shall review the Center's Human Resources Policy as appropriate and recommend any desired changes to the Board.

The motion was moved and seconded and unanimously approved.

Frank Cicero Jr., a neighbor and supporter of the EHC, as well as a trial and appellate lawyer, was introduced to speak about his recent book, Creating the Land of Lincoln: The State of Illinois's First Fifty Years, in recognition of this year's bicentennial of its statehood. Cicero's talk covered the history of Native Americans and slavery during the early statehood, as well as laws and territory and boundary changes that affected the economic and population growth of Illinois and eventually influenced Illinois' role in the Union forces during the Civil War.

Guests were invited to meet and have books autographed by the author, and the annual meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Neiman Reed
Secretary