



**International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies
2012 Annual Meeting**

**Marriott Paris Rive Gauche Hotel and Conference Center
July 18, 2012**

Minutes

Call to Order

The Annual Meeting of members of the IAJGS was called to order by President Michael Goldstein at 2:04 pm Paris Time. Members of the IAJGS Board were introduced.

Roll Call

Secretary Joel Spector called to roll of members of the IAJGS. 48 IAJGS members were represented.

President's Report

President Michael Goldstein delivered a review of the previous year in English, and a little French: 30 countries are represented at this conference; there is real international representation on all IAJGS committees. Three of the forthcoming IAJGS conferences will be international, and the IAJGS is in good financial status.

Financial Report

Treasurer Paul Silverstone presented the Treasurer's Report: Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss. He also stated that the IAJGS currently has enough money to fund conferences.

Election of Directors

The slate of nominees for the positions as IAJGS Director was proposed. The nominees are: Nolan Altman (Oceanside, NY); Daniel Horowitz (Kfar Saba, Israel); Kahlile Mehr (Bountiful, UT); Mark Nicholls (Edgware, Middlesex, England); Jay Sage (Newton Center, MA); Jackye Sullins (Carlsbad, CA).

As there were no nominations from the floor, the slate was elected by affirmation.

Bylaws Amendments

The proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the IAJGS were presented by Bylaws Committee Chairman Joel Spector. After a vote, the amendments passed as proposed.

Committee Reports:

Membership Committee

Committee Chairperson Jan Meisels Allen reported that four societies have joined the IAJGS in the last year; there is a potential application of a non-voting member.

Through the membership Committee, there is now a Board member assigned as a liaison for each member JGS. They have been in contact with their societies to maintain lines of communication with members, make member societies of actions of the IAJGS, assist in problem-solving, etc. Three societies have already been assisted by liaisons and subsequent IAJGS involvement and are now back "on-track."

There was some discussion regarding a member society that may be resigning, and what could be done to keep them involved. It was suggested that perhaps it was the cost (i.e. number of members) as a contributing factor, and that perhaps we need a marketing person. President Goldstein is to follow up on this issue.

Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

Committee Chairperson Jan Meisels Allen reported that access is being challenged worldwide. Relevant to the SSDI (Social Security Death Index) she reviewed how the situation arose, and suggested that we support the Senate version of proposed bill. Chairperson Allen also reported that there are many concerns about Canadian libraries and archives, including possible elimination of inter-library loans for genealogical material.

Rabbi Malcolm Stern Grant

Secretary Joel Spector presented a summary of reported progress of Stern Grant projects from the previous three years. He will follow up and ask for report as each project is completed.

Stern Grant Committee member Nolan Altman introduced the 2012 Stern Grant. The two proposed recipients, to receive \$1,500 each, are (1) the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to continue the printing, digitizing and indexing of records in their archives, and (2) the Israel Genealogy Research Association (IGRA) to speed the completion of a search engine able to handle both English and Hebrew searches. A motion was made (Toronto, Australia) to accept the recommendation. The motion was approved unanimously.

Webinar Report

IAJGS Webmaster Daniel Horowitz announced that this meeting is being broadcast as a webinar. He then described a webinar's benefits: they are free to IAJGS members, provide exposure worldwide; can be recorded for future use. Production and broadcast of a webinar requires only an Internet connection and a computer on both ends; one small item is required to be downloaded onto the computer broadcasting the presentation. There is little technical knowledge required, but a small cadre of knowledgeable people is being formed. IAJGS members should request assistance at webmaster@iajgs.org

Delegate Janette Silverman commented on the success of GoToMeeting, both for outreach and for homebound members.

Societies are encouraged to use resource. It was also suggested that webinars be archived in the IAJGS Library.

Good and Welfare

President Michael Goldstein suggested a motion thanking Larry Hamilton for all of his work.

It was suggested that there be more outreach to representatives of countries not now represented on the Board.

It was suggested that a template for the website of each conference be created.

Chana Berlowitz (a president of the International Council of Jewish Women, for 30 years) suggested a structure for societies with multiple vice presidents.

Adjournment

The Annual Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel Spector

Secretary, IAJGS