

Minutes  
Hamilton Township Philatelic Society  
Hamilton Township Free Public Library  
Hamilton, New Jersey  
November 15, 2016

The November 2016 meeting of the Hamilton Township Philatelic Society was called to order by Vice President Dennis Kennedy at 7:15pm with the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 25 members in attendance and 4 visitors.

**Visitors**

Visitors included Bill Schnug's wife, Judy, Charles McGinley, Tom Lausi and David Dailey. Charles McGinley decided to join on the spot.

**Officers Reports**

There was no reading of Minutes from the previous month's meeting. The minutes are posted and can also be read on our website.

Treasurer Dr. Ronald Gonzalez reported that there was \$2,970.01 in the Treasury. Motion to accept the Treasury Report was made by Len DeGroot and seconded by Joe Seliga. The vote to accept was unanimous.

Treasurer Dr. Ronald Gonzalez advised the membership that 2017 annual dues can be collected now.

**Old & New Business**

The following is what transpired and it was a mixture of old and new business.

**Membership**

Vice President Dennis Kennedy advised the membership that a total of 93 invitations had been mailed in September to 93 APS members who reside in the local area. Each of these 93 invitations was personally addressed by President Keiles to the APS member. Disappointingly, not one of the 93 made any effort to contact the Society or attend either of our last two meetings.

Len DeGroot wondered if he could look at the list and determine if he knew any of them personally.

**Speakers**

Bill Anderson had nothing new regarding attracting additional new speakers. Vice President Dennis Kennedy reiterated the need of new speakers and he asked all in attendance to keep that in mind.

Jeff Boyarsky advised us via email that he had has been in contact with Tom Horn at the APS regarding either the Ambassador program or the Mentoring program. Jeff also emailed Ed Grabowski and has asked him to search out some prospective speakers at the Collectors Club of New York and the Westfield Stamp Club for HTPS.

### **Publicity**

Nothing was available on this topic. We will await Jeff Boyarsky's return for an update on this.

### **APS Liaison**

Ron Kane had contacted the APS and had no new information on this. Ron may wish to look into the APS Ambassadorship program which is some new interface being introduced by APS to communicate better with its Chapters.

Jeff Boyarsky reported via email that the APS has reached out to him to be a member of their Mentorship program.

### **Road Trip to APS Library – Bellefonte, PA**

Dr. Ronald Gonzalez showed a few pictures of his and Joe Seliga and Ed Murtha's visit to the new APRL Library. A request was made to the attending members to make a visit and if you do not belong to the APS that you consider joining.

### **Stamp Evaluation Committee**

Vice President Dennis Kennedy raised the question about the interest in setting up a Committee that would evaluate (but not appraise!!) individual stamp collections from the general public. Dennis has approached the Cranbury Public Library with the idea and they have expressed an interest and would provide the necessary space and advertising. There appears to be some interest and Dennis is organizing an exploratory group to see how to proceed from here.

### **By-Laws Amendments**

Two new by-law amendments had been proposed by Secretary Ed Murtha at the last HTPS Executive Board meeting. They were outlined in the last Hamilton Hinge newsletter and then further explained and discussed at the meeting.

First, the HTPS Executive Board will meet in August and March. The August meeting is to formulate and finalize the annual budget, review and refine the monthly programs and confirm the list of monthly speakers for the upcoming September to June meetings as well as any other Society business. The March meeting is to create the list of prospective HTPS officers for the upcoming year that will be presented to the membership at the April meeting.

Second, the HTPS Treasurer, with the assistance of HTPS Officers and Executive Board members, will present and explain at the September meeting the HTPS Annual Budget to the HTPS membership for their consideration and review.

Ed Murtha stated that he thought it was necessary to include these in the bylaws since most new HTPS administrations forgot about doing them. The bylaws were submitted to the membership and were unanimously accepted by the 25 members in attendance.

### **Holiday Party – NEXT MEETING – 20 December 2016**

There is a major issue and we may not be able to have our Holiday Party as planned. Vice President Kennedy asked Tony Zingale to explain further to the members why HTPS probably will not have a Holiday Party this year. Tony informed the members that the Library has instituted a “no food” policy for meeting room 1 & 2 because of the carpeting in the room. The Society has been assigned to one of these rooms for the December 20 meeting. All of the other library meeting rooms are already assigned to another group who apparently is paying the library for their use.

Dr. Ronald Gonzalez asked about the possibility of holding the party on another date in December. That information was not available and it was not warmly received by a number of the members because of other commitments at this time of the year. Tony Zingale suggested having a Show & Tell instead of the Holiday Party. Ed Murtha suggested not having the meeting at all since it is so close to Christmas. All agreed that there was a problem but no decision was ever reached or agreed upon.

### **N.B.**

**Nothing was decided. We (the officers and executive board) must make the decision post haste and advise the membership immediately. Remember a number of them do not have email!!!**

### **Presentation**

Mac Surreal, the President of the Merchantville Stamp Club, presented several HTPS members with a Certificate of Appreciation for services provided to the club's major show MERPEX. Those so honored were Bill Andersen, Ken Steel, Bill Schnug, Jeff Boyarsky, Dennis Kennedy, Roger Randall and Ed Murtha.

### **Stamps for the Wounded**

Ken Steel advised the membership that he had received acknowledgement from John Hotchner for receipt of 4.73 pounds of stamps from HTPS and that Ken has more to send thanks to our membership.

Ken was asked if there was any special format that stamps had to be sent (e.g., on paper vs. off paper, etc.), The answer was no.

### **Show and Tell**

Ed Muench is now published. His article on Bicycles on Stamps was published in the May 2016 issue of *The Wheelmen*, a leading bicycle collectibles magazine. Typical of Ed, the article and material was informative and beautiful!!!

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm before the presentation. Dr. Ronald Gonzalez won the 50/50 and Robin Rowan won the second 50/50.

### **Presentation**

Mr. Bill Schnug, fellow HTPS member, provided us with a very informative presentation on early cancellations of both US and Canada stamps.

### **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting tentatively will be held on December 20, 2016.

Submitted by  
Edward Murtha  
Secretary