

Tre Lag Stevne Steering Committee
Hosted by Chris Falteisek at his home in Hastings, MN
March 23, 2019
Meeting Notes

Attendees: Chris Falteisek, Joy Shong, Dixie Hansen, Barry Dahl, Marilyn Sorenson, Nancy Pickering
Absent: Dick Lundgren, Robert Fossum, John Reindl, Jim Olson, Sam Christenson, Ron Helstad

- A. Open meeting – Joy Shong
- B. Minutes of Last Meeting
Minutes of the January 26 meeting were reviewed by members. Approved.
- C. Treasurer's Report
Ron Helstad had forwarded to Joy Shong his assessment that the latest report was actually the same as at our last meeting; no payouts had been made since the last meeting.
- D. Stevne Planning
 - a. Program Schedule. We discussed those on the spreadsheet which had been confirmed first, and went down the list.
 - i. Opening Ceremonies – tabled and then returned. How about Opening at 9:00, and begin the Keynote at 9:30 or 9:45?
 - ii. Keynote Suggestions: 1) Janet Martin, 2) Kari Touring, or Lars Walker. Settled on Lars Walker – Lindisfarne connection or other Viking topic (possibly in costume, in character), followed by a presentation on “The Runes: A Deeper Journey”, since the early hour would be a problem for her commute. Later that same day have Lars Walker make a second presentation related to Vikings. Need to check with speakers for their options.
 - iii. Marilyn commented on timing of opening the lab (related to tour and initial speakers on Thursday. Genealogists cannot attend many of the sessions. Suggested finding someone to sit in the lab to monitor who/what goes in and out of the lab. Let people know they won't get help from genealogists during that time.
 - iv. Topics and Speakers
 - Marilyn mentioned a presentation on Genealogy: “Software data entry recommendations” which would include best practices, solutions, and adv/disadv of using your standalone software vs. using online software.
 - We still are interested in having Elaine talk about Growing Up in Alexandria.
 - Chris still is expecting to do a presentation on tidying up your files, “death cleaning,” genealogy preservation, and “what to send where” for archiving (ex: NAHA, Norway House, etc.). He has requested the Friday morning time slot.
 - We're still interested in Thomas Jacobson presenting on Claus Clausen, pioneer pastor.
 - Tim Peterson, interim pastor at Mindekirken, could give a presentation on the Hauge Movement. (He's a good musician too, and might participate in a singalong with his accordion – maybe save this idea for a vacant slot).

- Deb Nelson Gourly has not responded to emails, but Candace Simar also has a talk about the 1862 Indian uprising, based on her grandfather's diary. Decided to ask Elaine to ask her. If Candace is available, Chris will notify Deb.
 - Barb Grover was mentioned for a presentation of old postcards, but that's unsure because of her health and she needs time to decide. As an alternative to the postcards idea, Marilyn knows ____ Bliss (sp?) as an alternative on the same subject.
 - Could Janet Martin do a second presentation, in addition to her proposed slot as entertainment at the banquet with her Church Basement Ladies?
 - How about a DNA panel discussion, inspired by Dixie's presentation last year. We discussed possibly a presentation on the major companies and how to sign up, how memberships work, and what is trending. Dixie will develop something.
 - Native American photo exhibit (1850s) at Henderson Library. Discussion of finding the library; which tribes? Nancy brought a book of photography from the era. Assign to Dick to pursue.
 - Marguerite Ragnow, on the Printing Press – ask Dick to make contact. Marilyn has the contact info and will contact Dick. Marguerite has several other topics, perhaps four.
 - Still not sure whether Ginny Nelson will host the Hardanger Klubb this year. Travel distance and cost may be an issue.
 - Nancy Pickering noted additional information about the presentation she gave in S. St. Paul about the “disappearing headstones” and it was suggested she give it again with the additional information, if there is need to fill another slot.
 - Dixie – “Radio Theater” – They do not have a topic that would fit for us. Dixie thought we should not pursue this topic.
- v. Tour. After much discussion of the size of our group and how the museum can handle large numbers of people, we decided the group (est. size of 70) should be split into two groups of 35, each group doing a different order of the two museums (Historical Society at the Knute Nelson Home and the Runestone Museum; the latter has 9 buildings on site.). Decided not to include research time at the museum 3rd floor library as a group, but mention it in our program book for those who are interested independently. Allow for drive time. One hour at each museum; Runestone is self-guided and Historical Society is guided with ½ hour for each floor (1 & 2). Cost is \$4 pp for Runestone and \$5 pp for Historical Society but \$4 for 60+. Interested in lectures about the runestone history & research, clothing, historical artifacts, purses, flour sacks, aprons, etc. or PPT programs on farming or early communities, which could be a presentation at the hotel instead? The hotel box lunch (sandwich, chips, fruit, cookie & soda) is pricey at \$13 pp. Are there picnic facilities at Big Ole park, or the Runestone museum? Or return to hotel to allow more time for evening genealogy research? We'd still like to meet at the Big Ole statue either before or at the end of the tour for a group photo.
- vi. Entertainment & Music –
- As mentioned, Tim Peterson (interim pastor at Mindekirken) is a good musician and will be asked to lead a singalong with his accordion.

- Thursday Night Concert. Music to be provided by Tre-lag Musicians. Chris will talk to Robin, Louise and others. Maybe accordions. (NOTE: With Marv's recent death, Louise may or may not be available).
 - Entertainment (movie night) might be Stavnik (sp?) Letters, Kristin Lavransdatter, The Immigrants (which was agreed was too long). Movie only, not music.
- b. Vendors – Dixie will handle this portion of the planning, this year, and perhaps get Nancy Olson to help. It was noted in the last meeting that there are Scandinavian shops in Alexandria that we could attract.
 - c. Meals – Prices already discussed earlier. For Breakfast, the hotel can open the restaurant for us, but prices not included.
 - d. Genealogy Lag – We'll use rooms 1 & 2 and continue to try a “standard” configuration, but we do need to update our “usual” number of tables, and it would be good to get a better floorplan.
 - e. Hospitality Room – Gay Kearin still wants to do this, but in light of her recent cancer diagnosis, we should have a stand-by plan. We need to be careful of the way we serve coffee, since we pay by the gallon. Use the little cups, not the big cups, or we'll run dry. Should we have a donation jar for coffee?
 - f. Publicity – no report from John, so we don't have a report.
 - g. Budget – cookies and iced tea were mentioned as pricier this time.
 - h. Other – Nancy P. brought up the design of the logo for this year's theme. She had a printout of the font used for the movie “Close Encounters of the Third Kind” and it was suggested we could use runic characters instead. Also it was confirmed that we would not have arts & crafts this year, and also no auction. Dixie requested a copy of the floorplan Nancy created.
- E. Site selection – nothing new to present. Next year (2020) will be August 5-8. We should announce the 2020 site at the Banquet when Gary does announcement, and we should also include the 2020 dates and place in our program booklet.
 - F. Adjournment at 3:40 pm.

Submitted by Nancy Pickering, Secretary