

1/16/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Library
January 16, 1940

Pursuant to the call of the President, the Vigo County Historical Society met at the Fairbanks Library at 7:30 P.M. in Annual session for the election of Directors and the transaction of such other business as might be brought up.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved.

Miss Grace Davis, the Treasurer, presented her report of the receipts and expenditures for the year 1939 which was accepted and made a part of this record.

The President then announced that the election of Directors was next in order and called for nominations. Mr. Markle nominated the following persons: Mrs. Herbert Briggs, Miss Florence Crawford, Miss Grace Davis, Mr. A. A. Faurot, Miss Mary Gilbert, Mrs. Henlen Gilbert Gillum, Mr. A. R. Markle, Mr. A. A. Orth, Mr. G. A. Scott. These nominations were seconded by Miss Crawford and on motion, duly seconded were declared elected.

The Society thereupon took a recess and the Directors present held a meeting for the election of officers. Mr. Scott declined to continue as President and after some discussion the election was postponed till Wednesday Jan. 24. Mr. Markle and Miss Crawford consented to interview meanwhile certain persons who might make good presidents and would be willing to assume the responsibilities of the office. Adjourned.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

2/20/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
February 20, 1940

The Society met at 7:30 P.M. in the Fairbanks Library and was called to order by Judge Scott. The minutes of the meeting of January 16 were read and approved.

Mr. Scott again declined to continue as president and offered his resignation from the Board of Directors which, upon motion of Mr. Markle was accepted. The Society then recessed while, the Board held a session for the purpose of electing officers. Mr. Markle reported that he had interviewed Prof. Waldo F. Mitchell who had consented to accept the presidency. Prof. Mitchell was there-upon elected unanimously. The other officers were then reelected for the ensuing year, viz- Mrs. Laura Pound Briggs, V. President, Mr. A. A. Faurot, Secretary, Miss G. E. Davis, Treasurer. The Board adjourned and the Society reconvened.

Plans and prospects were discussed for the future. The Secretary called attention to the fact that our Constitution which was adopted in 1923 was in parts nullified by the articles of incorporation which were drawn up and duly recorded in 1924 and that we have no by-laws on record.

It was suggested that we have committees on Attendance, on Membership, on Program, on Current Events, and a Curator. The appointment of Committees was left to the president-elect.

The paper of the evening was read by Judge Scott upon "Old Stairways from Sidewalks to Second Floors and Basements in Terre Haute", an interesting discussion of a unique topic.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

Those present were: Messrs. Orth, Markle, Faurot, Scott, Miss Crawford, Mrs. Briggs, Miss Grace Davis. (one stranger)

3/19/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairhanks Memorial Library
March 19, 1940

Tuesday evening, March 19, 1940 was the regular meeting night but there were only four person present, viz.- Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Orth, Miss Gilbert and Miss Crawford.

Mr. Markle was to have read a paper but, he being absent, the time was spent in discussing ways and means of interesting the citizens in the Society.

The President appointed Mr. Orth to take charge of the April meeting, Miss Gilbert to provide a program for May. For the June meeting the four adjoining counties are to be invited to meet with us at Fort Harrison.
(Copied from Miss Crawford's notes) AAF

Meeting of the Board of Directors, March 26, 1940

Called to order at 7:30 P.M. in Fairbanks Library by President Mitchell with the following members present: Mrs. Briggs, Miss Crawford, Miss Davis, Mr. Orth, Mr. Markle, Mr. Faurot. Mrs. Gillum absent. Miss Crawford gave a report of the meeting of the Society on March 19.

The Secretary then presented a draft of a new constitution for the Society, based upon our Articles of Incorporation and the old constitution which was adopted January 4, 1923 at the second meeting of the Society..It was that there were conflicts between these two instruments and that there is no record of any action by the Society to harmonize them. The proposed constitution was taken up section by section, discussed and with a few minor changes approved. on motion of Mr. Markle, seconded by Miss Gilbert, unanimously carried it was recommended to the Society for adoption. Mr. Markle was named as publicity agent. The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

4/16/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Library
April 16, 1940

The Society met at the usual place and hour with a fair attendance. Prof. Mitchell presiding. The minutes of February 20th. were read and approved.

The Clerk read the draft of a new constitution which the Board of Directors had carefully prepared and approved.

Judge Scott suggested that paragraphs one and two of Art. III be amended by inserting the words "of those present" after "by a majority vote", thus making the conclusion of each paragraph read "by a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting." This amendment was accepted without any objection, where upon Mr. Markle moved that the constitution be adopted and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Markle reported that the marker designating the site of the Old Markle Mill had been removed but thought it would soon be put back.

The President appointed the following Membership Committee: Miss Florence Crawford, Miss Bonnie Farwell, Miss Mary Gilbert, Miss Meribah Clark and Prof. Karpinski. He named Mr. Markle and Mr. Faurot as Publicity Committee.

Mr. Roy Thurman, County Supervisor of Federal Writers' Program was then called upon to introduce the speaker of the evening, Miss Juanita Hinman of Indianapolis, Assistant Supervisor of the Indiana State WPA Museum Projects, who talked upon antique furniture and exhibited some fine scale models of various styles of chairs, tables and other pieces.

Mr. Harris, the President of the Clay County Historical Society was introduced and told about the work of his Society, inviting those present to attend a meeting at Brazil on May 6 to view an exhibit of pioneer household furniture in their "Cabin of Antiquities."

It was announced that Miss Mary Gilbert would arrange the program for our meeting on the third Tuesday in May.

The President proposed that the June meeting be held at Fort Harrison. Adjourned.

A.A. Faurot, Secretary

Art. 1. Name

The name of this Society shall be "The Vigo County Historical Society."

Art. II. Purpose

The purpose of this Society shall be to collect and preserve relics, documents, records, maps, wills, old genealogies and other material relative to the history of our City, County, State and Nation and to promote an appreciation of our historic development.

Art. III. Membership

1. Active Members- Any adult resident of Vigo County, Indiana, who is interested in the purpose of this Society and is willing to assist in the promotion thereof may become an active member by a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting of the Society.

The dues of active members shall be fifty cents a year, payable in January.

2. Honorary Members- Non-residents of Vigo County who are willing to take such part in promoting the welfare of the Society as their circumstances will permit, may become honorary members upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors and a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting of the Society.

3. Junior Members- Persons under eighteen years of age who are interested in our work may become junior members upon their approval by the Board of Directors.

4. Only active members shall have the right to vote, to hold office or to act as chairman of a committee.

Art. IV. Directors

1. The business and prudential affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Board of nine Directors, elected and approved by the Society at the Annual Meeting in January, who shall serve for one year, or until their successors are elected and qualify. This Board shall have general care of all property belonging to the Society.

2a. At the first meeting of the Board of Directors after the Annual Meeting they shall elect from among their number a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

2b. The duties of these officers shall be those usually performed by such officers in similar organizations and such other duties as may be set forth in the By-Laws of the Society. They shall function at all meetings of the Society and the Board.

cont.

3. The Board of Directors shall elect a Curator whose duty shall be to file, classify, arrange and safely keep all books, papers, relics, and other material belonging to the Society; at its he shall make a written report of all additions made to the Society's collections during the year and of any other matters of importance pertaining to the property in his care.

4. Whenever there is need for a director for the work of the junior members the President may appoint a competent person to organize and supervise their activities.

5. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business,

Art. V. Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held the second Tuesday in January.

2. Regular meetings of the Society shall be held at least four times a year upon dates fixed in the By-Laws or otherwise determined by the Society.

3. At meetings of the Society nine members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. VI. By-Laws

Any by-law deemed necessary and not in conflict with this Constitution may be adopted by the Society at any regular meeting by a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present.

Art. VIII. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any meeting of the Society by a two-thirds affirmative vote of those present, provided that three weeks' previous notice shall have been given, either at a meeting of the Society, or in the public press, or by mail to the members of the Society, said notice to contain the substance of the proposed change and the time when it is to be presented for approval.

5/21/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
May 21, 1940

The Society was called to order at 7:40 P.M. in the Fairbanks Library by the President, Professor Mitchell. The minutes of the April meeting were read and, with slight correction, were approved.

Mr. Markle reported that arrangements for the June meeting to be held at Fort Harrison were progressing but not yet completed. The program would be reminiscent of the Harrison campaign in 1840 and the Historical Societies of neighboring counties would be invited.

Mr. Orth called attention to the WPA projects display now at the ISTC were inviting those present to visit it.

Miss Mary Gilbert in a well prepared paper discussed the many papers which have been presented before the Society since its organization in 1922. She called attention to the subjects discussed therein, to the absence of many of these papers from our files (most of those missing were never furnished us by the authors); urged the appointment of a competent person to arrange and classify the material we have; and pointed out some subjects which should be written up- biographies, early history, and events of more recent occurrence. The paper called forth considerable discussion. Mr. Markle and other urged the election of a curator. Several thought we should have a current events reporter of committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 after which the Board of Directors held a short session with Mrs. Briggs, Miss Davis, Miss Gilbert, Mr. Orth, Mr. Markle, Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Faurot present.

Several persons were suggested for curator but each declined, whereupon President Mitchell appointed Miss Crawford, Mr. Markle and Mr. Faurot a committee "To hunt a curator".

Mrs. Briggs was named to report upon Current Events.
Adjourned at 8:50.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

6/18/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
June 18, 1940

The Society met at 2:30 P.M. at the Fort Harrison
Country Club with about fifty people present.

Dr. Waldo F. Mitchell called the meeting together
and, after extending a welcome to visitors, introduced Mr.
A. R. Markle, Chairman of the Program Committee who presided
over the presentation of the following excellent program:

Pledge to the Flag, led by Mrs. Laura Briggs
Song, "America," led by Mrs. W. F. Mitchell
"Land Acquisitions from the Indians" by Wilburn Keifer;
"Harrison's Military Career before 1812" by Lee French;
"Harrison in the War of 1812" by Mrs. Mary LaFollette;
"Harrison from 1815 to 1839" by Mrs. Sylvia Byers
"The Campaign of 1840" by Prof Charles Roll
Campaign Songs of 1840 read by Mr. Markle
"Inauguration and Death of Harrison" G. A. Scott

The weather was favorable, the attendance was good,
the program was interesting and well presented and was a
fitting commemoration of the centennial of the Harrison campaign
on the site of the Fort erected by Harrison in 1811.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

September 17, 1940

The Society met in regular monthly session at the usual time and place and was called to order by Dr. Mitchell. The minutes of May 21 and June 18 were read and approved.

Mrs. Briggs was asked to report upon Current Events but said she had nothing to report.

Miss Jeannette Landrum was then introduced and gave an interesting paper upon "Study of Latin-American Relations". There being no business, the meeting adjourned.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

October 15, 1940

The Society met at the usual hour and place with about thirty present.

Dr. Mitchell called the meeting to order and introduced Miss Juliet Peddle who gave a talk upon "Early Architecture of Terre Haute and Vicinity". She showed lantern slides of the old Prestoh House at Poplar and 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ Sts., of the Deming house at Sixth and Walnut Sts., recently torn down, and several others, explaining the architectural features as the pictures appeared. Her talk was very interesting and instructive and was listened to with rapt attention which it deserved.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

November 19, 1940

Regular meeting of the Society. Mrs. Herbert Briggs reported on Current Events: (a) The new Penitentiary- a \$3,000,000 structure; (b) St. Mary of the Woods Centennial celebration; (c) The first peace time military conscription in our history; (d) The election of a U.S. President for a third term-the first in our history; (e) The 100th anniversary of St. Stephen's Church.

Paper of the evening by Miss Helen Ross: "Are there Subversive Influences in our Public Schools?" A very well prepared discussion and well presented, concluding with the opinion that there are no dangers of our youth being led astray. No business was transacted.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary

12/17/1940

Club Room of the Emeline Fairbanks Memorial Library
December 17, 1940

The Society met in the Fairbanks Library at 7:30
In the absence of both the president and the vice-president,
Miss Florence Crawford called the meeting to order.

Mr. A. R. Markle told briefly of the recent
Historical Society meeting held in Indianapolis.

The paper of the evening was read by Mrs. Mariam
Weinstein Gray (Mrs. H.C.) upon "The Early Medical Men of
Terre Haute" It was a very interesting discussion of the
early Terre Haute physicians previous to 1830 and their
methods of practice.

The meeting adjourned at 9 o'clock.

A. A. Faurot, Secretary