

NORPS Board Meeting  
December 3, 2016

Preceded by a presentation on Revenues by Bob Hohertz.

Those present were Rudi Anders, Tim Auld, Susan Bushard, Pat Flaherty, Bert Harris, Paul Hempel, Bruce Johnson, Joseph Johnson, Steve Lund, Mario Nardi, Al Sarvi and Antonio Len-Rios  
Paul Hempel called the meeting to order at 11:18AM.

Paul started off with the windows. He asked where we are with the donations for the windows so we can get them ordered. We have \$900 in donations and enough additional funds to cover them. Bruce stated we should have around \$1100 in donations for the windows so far. Bert revised his information and he stated that \$1100 and we just got another \$200 donation on top of that. We will write a check to Midwest Real Estate for \$1400 for the windows.

Paul stated he would make working on the bathroom a priority.  
The next step would be the kitchen. He is prepared to pick up supplies to install the kitchen, including a shelf for a microwave. Tim asked about the plumbing and Paul noted that most of the plumbing is already in place.

Bruce reminded the board that there had been a specific deposit to the library of \$1000 for work on the bathroom, and that he had gotten an additional \$1000 gift for additional construction. Paul noted that the windows will be single-hung windows. Bruce asked about any additional security needs. Paul stated that the weakest point at this time is the back door.

Paul mentioned that they had done a great job with the parking area that was paved, with a ramp for wheeling in the books. The cost was about \$4700 and was paid for by the bank.

Susan noted that she still has some wood from our building of shelves. Paul stated that we could store that information in the basement. He also talked about what it would cost to waterproof the basement. He also stated that we would need to do some landscaping to get water to flow away from the building.

Paul moved on to Al to ask about how we are doing. He noted that there has not been as much red box activity. We are still getting donations, and we are still selling material at the auctions.

Paul went back to saying that we have many supplies he was able to scavenge for the bathroom project. After that he really wanted to focus on getting one of the offices fixed up so that we could start to rent it. Our only income has been dues, donations, and Al's work with stamp donations.

The floor was given to Mario. He stated we have 63 members and have gotten a total of over \$1700 in dues and donations. He suggested that we have 200 other names and addresses of former members donors and former donors and dealers.

Joseph followed up on that idea that we should talk about sending a mailing. Al noted that we could also hand it out to the stamp clubs in the area. Paul thought it was a great idea to send a mailing.

Bruce stated that we should not send another request for donations after one was just made with the membership dues notes that the membership secretary.

Paul agreed and stated we the focus a letter on getting new members and not on fund-raising. He feels

that we need to shorten it up. Steve complained that the proposed letter did not talk essentially about a library. He felt that there was an attitude among some people that the library was about meetings and the bourse and not about study and the library.

Paul said that the list of 200 seemed small. Paul stated that he could send Mario a list of names and address that Mario could evaluate for use for a membership drive.

Al stated that he had a basic question. We have two organizations, NORPS and NORPL. What is the relationship between the two organizations. Pat stated that he had a similar question. He wanted to know if the idea that we should just focus on library and research or is there still an interest in other philatelic-related society. He stated that NORPS was initially a separate an idea. Then the people who started NORPS met the Bushards who had a library. The two were formed in conjunction. Al feels we should resolve this question about how the two organizations.

Steve interjected that he felt that there was not enough support for the library. Paul noted that this is why we need to work on the amount of membership. There was a wide ranging discussion about how the membership has been flat and the need to increase.

Bruce stated that he gets people coming up to him with our brochure which has the wrong address. Tim stated he had created it and would work with Paul to fix the brochure.

There was a review of who was working on library work. It was established that 3 or 4 people do work on library items on a regular basis.

Paul gave the floor to Bert. Paul mentioned we will need to make a premium payment for the insurance. Bruce asked if we had insurance and Paul noted that the insurance was canceled for the month.

Bert noted that we have doubled the revenue this December from last December. \$6902 is in the treasury right now. Utilities have been quite reasonable (no more than \$100). There was some talk about working on heating the building more evenly.

Paul noted that he was carrying title insurance for the library, but he did not anticipate any additional expenses. We may close in December or January.

Pat stated that the only input he gets from the Tuesday News nowadays is criticism. Contact him with anything to add to the News. Bruce offered the idea of doing a little book review of a book in the library.

Paul stated that he would have a scheduling conflict with the Minnesota Expo. He also stated that he will not be running for President next year. He feels the need to take a break. Further discussion may mean that Paul may be able to make it.

Paul adjourned the meeting at 12:39PM.