**Friday, 30 November 2018 (Saint Andrew’s Day)**

6 O’clock PM

Home of Frank Gibson, 3507 Morgan River Drive South, Beaufort, SC 29907

**CALL TO ORDER**

1. At 6 O’clock PM, on Saint Andrew’s Day, President Tom Wilson called to order the first Annual Business Meeting of the Saint Andrew’s Society of Lowcountry South Carolina.Our gracious host was member Frank Gibson, who provided light dining fare and a selection of libations. A record of the Order of Business for this meeting, which is prescribed in Article IV of the By-Laws, can be found in Enclosure (1).

There were thirteen (13) members present:

Tom Burnett (Chaplain), Wayne Cousar, Phil Cromer, Carroll Crowther, Frank Gibson, Joe Hardin (Exchequer) Mark Henderson (Secretary), Ronald Lambe, Thomas Logan, Mike Monahan, Matt St. Clair, Nolan Tarrance, Tom Wilson (President).

There were five (5) members not present:

Charles Aimar, Logan Crowther, Claude McLeod (, Tom Moody (Proxy submitted to Tom Wilson), and Joe Riddle Proxy Submitted to Tom Wilson).

2. An opening prayer to our Lord God and his son Jesus Christ was said by Chaplain Tom Burnett.

3. The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, led by President Tom Wilson.

**READING OF THE MINUTES**

The Secretary’s reading of previous minutes and report wereomitted, with the membership’s attention being called to Enclosures (4) through (6).

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

1. There was no Secretary’s report.

2. The Exchequer’s report was presented by Joe Hardin. He stated that the Society has respectable bank balance and that a slight profit was made from the Robert Burns Dinner. He also indicated that there is still some discovery to be done to determine of the Society should pursue 501.C.3 Non-Profit Organization status.

3. Tom Wilson presented the President’s Report with a review of Society activities to-date in the year 2018, as listed on page 2 of Enclosure (1). Of note, the first annual Robert Burns Dinner was a great success, with special mention being made of Frank Gibson’s efforts to organize the event. The first issue of the Society By-Laws was made in July 2018, which officially provided purpose, structure and organization to the Society and the conduct of Society business.

There was brief discussion regarding the letter to Gov. McMaster regarding Monument Protections in the Palmetto State, with those members present concurring with the letter. See a copy of the letter in Enclosure (2).

Additional discussion was had regarding to determine the desire of the Society membership to have the Society apply for membershipin the Heritage Society of Beaufort. It was determined that at this time the majority of the members desire our Society to retain its private organization status and that the application to the Heritage Society of Beaufort should be “politely withdrawn.”

4. No other officer reports were presented.

**ELECTIONS**

Elections were conducted by the Secretary in accordance with the Society By-Laws, Article V, Section 1, which states that “On St. Andrew’s Day (or other date appointed by the officers above), the Society shall, between the hours of 6:30 and 8:30 P.M., elect by ballot, from amongst themembers, the following officers: a President, a Vice President, an Exchequer, and a Secretary. They shallbe chosen by a majority of votes, provided not less than fifteen (15) members have voted.”

The Society By-Laws also state that the Society Board shall also have “up to six (6) additional Directors, one of whom shall be elected each year, each to serve a term of three years, or until his successor will have been chosen and qualified.”

With thirteen (13) members present, and President Wilson in the possession of two (2) proxies, there were fifteen (15) members counted present for conduct of a vote.

In accordance with the Society By-Laws, and by unanimous vote of the members counted present, the following members were elected to the Society Board of Directors

Board of Directors (2 Year Terms):

    **President:** **Tom Wilson** January 2019 - January 2021
    **Vice President:** **Matt St. Clair** January 2019 - January 2021
    **Exchequer:** **Joe Hardin** January 2019 - January 2021
    **Secretary:** **Joe Riddle** January 2019 - January 2021

Additional Directors (3 Year Terms):

1)  **Carroll Crowther** January 2017 - January 2020

2)  **Wayne Cousar** January 2017 - January 2020

3)  **Mark Henderson** January 2019 - January 2022

Appointed (2 Year Term):

**Chaplain:** **Tom Bernett** January 2019 - January 2021

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

No Unfinished Business was presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Robert Burns Night Supper/Formal Gala. The Societies second annual Burn’s Night Supper, celebrating the 260th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns will be held on Saturday, 26 January 2019. Frank Gibson has volunteered to lead the planning effort. Discussion was held regarding the proposed program for the event, and volunteers were identified to provide the planned toasts for the evening, with all present agreeing that the length of the toasts will be limited to 3 minutes.

 President of the United States Mike Monahan

 Robert the Bruce Carroll Crowther

 Elizabeth I of Scotland Nancy Crowther

 Scotland Wayne Cousar

 U.S. Armed Forces Matt St. Clair

 Lassies Ron Lambe

 Laddies Tom Burnett

 Saint Andrew Tom WIlson

 Robert Burns Mark Henderson

2. A social gathering will be planned for April or May for the members and their wives/dates. Phil Cromer volunteered to coordinate and host the event.

3. Members were made aware of the Savannah Scottish Games on 4 May. Individual members are encouraged to attend.  Information on the Savannah Games can be found at www.savannahscottishgames.com.

4. The Society participated in the Charleston Scottish Games this year, including the rental of a front row, ideally located tent and table.  All the members attending had a great time, and all recommend a return in 2019.  Toward that end the Society will request the same tent and table site as last year, and one additional and adjacent tent table site, in anticipation of increased member participation.  More information about the Charleston Games can be found at www.charlestonscots.org.

5. A Kirkin of the Tartans will be planned for 2019, potentially at Old Sheldon or McPhersonville. Wayne Cousar will work on overall coordination. Frank Gibson volunteered to work on a date. Matt St. Clair will serve as Piper.

6. The next Annual Business Meeting of the Society, for members only, will be tentatively scheduled for Saint Andrew’s Day, the evening of *Saturday, 30 November 2019 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM*.

7. Two new members, who had been proposed to the Board and appropriately investigated, were voted on by the membership, which approved the candidates for membership. An invitation to join the Society will be extended by the President. These two men are:

 **Mr. Rion Salley**

 **Mr. Wilson McIntosh**

A letter from the President and an application form will be sent to each candidate to determine his interest in membership and will request the required personal information, lineage to Scottish ancestry to the best of the applicant’s knowledge, and the $50.00 initiation fee.

8. To aid in recognition of the Society at Games and Events, it was decided that a banner with the Society’s name and badge/logo would be designed and purchased. Phil Cromer and Mark Henderson volunteered to work on design and procurement.

9. The members discussed the topic of Annual Dues and funding Society activities.In accordance with the By-Laws, Annual Dues are not currently being assessed, and individual members are required to pay for participation in Society functions. Exchequer Joe Hardin reiterated that the Society has respectable bank balance. President Tom Wilson reminded the members that one of the objectives of the Society is to dispense charitable and educational assistance, and to do so will eventually require appropriate funds. After brief additional discussion the members present decided that Annual Dues should be set at $50.00 per member, and will be payable by the Burn’s Supper each January.

10. While the initial publication of the Society By-Laws set the Society off on a good foundation, it was decided that an annual review of the By-Laws should be conducted to update policy and procedures, correct errors, and to ensure that the governing document of the Society is as up-to-date and as correct as possible. President Tom Wilson proposed that he, Mark Henderson, and Tom Burnett serve as a By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee to conduct the first review and revision.

11. President Tom Wilson proposed the development of a Society Member and Ancestor Book that would allow members to provide a brief history of their Clan, its tartan, and their individual Scottish ancestry record. Format, specific content and construct would be discussed at future meetings.

12. Exchequer Joe Hardin made some closing remarks saying that we should be having fun and recommended that future meetings should allow for more social interaction and fellowship, either with a longer social hour leading up to the start of business, or a social break period mid-meeting.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

A closing prayer to our Lord God and his son Jesus Christ was said by Chaplain Tom Burnett.

A**DJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to close the meeting by Tom Wilson, and seconded, and the Annual Business Meeting of the Society was adjourned at 7:58PM.

Enclosures:

 1. Order of Business for the Annual Meeting of 30 November 2018

 2. Letter to Gov. McMaster RE: Monument Protections in the Palmetto State

 3. Letter to The Heritage Society of Beaufort

 4. Meeting Recollections of 6 March 2018

 5. Saint Andrew’s Update of 6 March 2018

6. Meeting Minutes of Officers and Founding Members of 10 July 2018