

Washington County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society

Meeting Minutes: February 15, 2020

The Wash. County OGS met today at the Wash. County Public Library. The meeting was called to order by President Jim Reed with 15 members present.

Program: Steven Anderson – U.S. 2020 Census

Our speaker was Steven Anderson from the U. S. Census Bureau which is part of the Dept. of Commerce. He stated that this is the 24th Census and that many do not know that the census was provided for as part of our U. S. Constitution. The first census was conducted in 1790 by U. S. Marshalls and consisted of 6 questions. It was used to apportion political power in the House of Representatives. The first census workers created their own forms. The first government printed forms were created in 1830 and the first mailed forms occurred in 1970. Currently the census not only allows for changes in the House of Representative membership per state, but is a source of information for allocation of government funding. The information is also used for commercial and safety decisions, such as where to locate new businesses and build fire stations.

It is vitally important that all persons are counted – citizens, illegals, homeless.

The current census is the first using electronic equipment. This equipment after downloading statistics will be sealed for the next 72 years so that any personal information cannot be compromised.

The current starting rate of pay for census workers is \$20/hr. and mileage reimbursement of \$.58/mi. Workers receive 3 days classroom training, one day on the road training and then they are their own boss. They are also trained in self-protection.

Business Meeting:

Following the program, the minutes were read and approved with changes.

The Treasurers report showed an ending balance of [REDACTED].

Old business: Ernie Thode recommended the books for the donation to the Genealogy Library. They will be ordered.

First Families: Shirley Harmon reported that she has approved two new members and that Deb Root Shell may have another family line to add.

New Business: Members were asked if they preferred the new table chair arrangement or the old way. There being no preference, it was remarked - whatever is easier.

Lila Hill reported that she has been in contact with Don and Sharon Gardner and they will be heading back to Ohio on March 1 and Don has really been enjoying the fishing.

New member Shaun Fullmer from Hyde Park in Chicago was introduced and welcomed. He has family in the area.

Barb Moberg mentioned the burial site of William Dawes (of whom she is a descendant) in Boston at the Jamaican Plains Cemetery with the May Family. There is a need of some type of monument or memorial. One suggestion was a Sewah plaque on a slightly raised platform.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.