

**Association of Philadelphia Tour Guides
General Membership Meeting and Certified Guide Induction
April 20, 2011, 7:00 PM
The Physick House, 321 S 4th St.**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:21.

The Secretary read the minutes from the March meeting. The minutes were passed by acclamation.

The Treasurer was “intransigent” and did not have a Treasurer’s report.

Committee reports were given. The Communications Committee reported that they haven’t done anything since meeting last summer before the Great Tour. Andy Maunder, who does not have time to chair the committee anymore, described what sorts of things the Communications Committee had done in terms of the website, mailing list, and membership acquisition. Richard Frey volunteered to join the committee.

The Events and Education Committee which mostly consists of Bob Skiba at the moment reported that they have speakers booked up to October. Any ideas for speakers or events from the membership are always welcome.

The Membership Committee has just been created by the President, with Elizabeth McKeon as chair. Tami Snodgrass also volunteered to be on the committee. The APT has doubled its membership in the past year, and membership now stands at 81.

The new Certification Committee of chaired by Ed Mauger will inherit the role played by Ed, Richard Frey, Bob Skiba, Sara Richardson, Del Conner, Greta Greenberger, and Joe Becton in creating and administering the certification exam. We have recently been contacted by the Boston tour guides’ association who wants to follow our lead in certification.

The National organization has also asked Bob Skiba to act as their Administrator.

The Handbook has now been proofread by Sara Richardson and is updated – CD versions will be available for those that have purchased the handbook. Any other corrections should be directed to the President.

The Great Tour 2011 has been moved to September 2011, but a Great Tour committee needs to be formed and we need to start planning.

The President proposed that with the amount of money coming through the organization for the course and certification, the APT should be incorporated as a non-profit. The PA incorporation is \$125; federal non-profit incorporation may take more help. The membership voted unanimously to begin the incorporation process.

The President announced that he had begun contacting organizations, especially in the PHNC, about getting member benefits for APT members. The President has also sent out emails to large tour operators to explain what the APT is doing and what we can offer to their guides, in an endeavor to open up a dialog with them.

This led to a discussion of who the large tour operators are, and what the role of Corporate Members in the APT should be. It is clear and was agreed upon by all that Corporate Members are non-voting members, but it still has not been determined, say, how many people from a company or group are included in the “Corporate Membership.”

Announcements were made and then Lynn Landes from the Philadelphia Society of Small Streets spoke about the movement to “Save Irving Street” by having Irving St. finally placed on the City Plan. The membership voted unanimously to support the preservation of Irving St. and to write a letter from the APT in support of keeping Irving St. public.

The meeting then turned to the awarding of Certificates to 29 guides who passed the first ever certification exam.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:45 to eat more food.