JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

Meeting of September 29, 2013

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Jewish Museum of Maryland

MINUTES

Dick Goldman opened the informal portion of the meeting in the lobby area of the museum. Coffee and donuts were provided, thanks to our hospitality chair, Stu Horwitz.

About 25 were in attendance initially. Each person was invited to introduce themselves, the lines of genealogic research he or she is pursuing, the family names and geographies involved. We learned that there is a wide range of knowledge in the group. Some are just beginning their research, while others had up to 20,000 names in their family trees.

Dick Goldman reported on a JCC – Owings Mills invitation to help the “25 Years after Operation Exodus” celebration on Sunday, October 13. He accepted the invitation on behalf of the society. Three computer stations, wi-fi service, and access to Ancestry.com will be available to assist visitors with on the spot genealogical research.

Returning to proceedings at the JMM, co-president Lara Diamond reminded the attendees of the need to fill the leadership of the various committees:

 **Program**:  Solicits and engages speakers, coordinates monthly programs, secures locations, introduces program. Plans and coordinates special events. [Zev Griner will chair this committee.]

**Resources**:  Liaison with Jewish Museum and JGS volunteers to assist in family research requests and maintaining records. Prepares indexes and lists of available resources at the Museum, locally, regionally and nationally.

**Technology**:  Establishes and manages all social media, web sites, blogs and other electronic surveys and communications. [Lara Diamond has agreed to chair this committee].

**Hospitality**:  Personally welcomes members, guests and prospects. Purchases and provides refreshments at meetings. Facilitates name tags, including special designations members may want. Stu and Bobbie Horwitz have already volunteered to take on this role. [Stu and Bobbie Horwitz, co-chairs]

**Publications**:  Publishes quarterly on-line magazine. Manages subscription list. Solicits and edits articles. Works with the PR committee in creating marketing materials for membership.

**Public Relations**: Recruits new members and promotes Jewish Genealogy in the community through press releases, articles, JewishGen and other genealogy sites and blogs, and general media. Works with Publications & Program committees in creating marketing materials for membership and special events.

**Member Services**: Identifies members who will act as Mentors and as Speakers. Maintain a "private" web based list for people to match with mentors.

Lara encouraged the members to go to the online survey designed to determine your interest in taking on one of these leadership roles.

The group then moved to the JMM library where we heard from two presenters:

* Duke Zimmerman, Vice President and Trustee of the Jewish Museum of Maryland and Chair of its Collections Committee gave a general introduction to the holdings of the museum.
* Edie Shlian recently began volunteering at the JMM and has begun helping to organize the various collections. She proceeded to describe some of the particular collections of particular value in genealogical research, including passenger ship manifests of ships that arrived in the Port of Baltimore, Baltimore Jewish Times obituaries, and local cemetery and burial records. These materials, which are available to visitors by appointment, are summarized in the attached handout.

**Next Meeting**

The group will next meet on Sunday, October 27 at 10:00 am, with the meeting location and program to be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.

**Attached handout:** Family History Resources – Robert L. Weinberg Family History Center, The Jewish Museum of Maryland