The general meeting of the Dallas Genealogy Society was opened by Kristen Moore, Vice President at 11:02 AM. The President is not present because his daughter is graduating from college. The minutes to the April meeting were posted on the web site and in the hall. There were no corrections or additions the minutes are approved.

Gloria Goodwin reports that we more than 21 members in attendance which makes a quorum. The Treasurer’s report is given by Mr. Travis Tynes. As of the month ending April 30, 2018 cash income was $1,665.00; the cash dispersed was $697.00. With a net increase cash total of $958.00 leaving a total cash amount $164,532.00 in the bank. There were questions or corrections we will approve that report and file for audit.

It is announced that the Bring A Friend drawing is to be postponed till September because we accidently threw away the tickets while cleaning out the storage closet on the 8th floor. If you brought a friend in the past year and still have your ticket please contact Gloria Goodwin, at membership@dallasgenealogy.org, and provide her with the details. So that you have time to contact her we will delay the drawing until September.

Tony Hanson gave an update on the McGowan Funeral Home project. Tony gave a quick history of how the Dallas Public Library acquired the records and how our African American Special Interest Group has been creating an online database of their records from the funeral home. This is a living and growing database of 5,134 entries which is ready for research. The special interest group with their volunteers did a great job adding to the wonderful online record to Dallas.

Mr. Hanson gave a report about the Genealogy Research Mentors. This is new to the monthly meetings; volunteer mentors are available beginning at 10:00 AM in the Hospitality area. Bring research questions and challenges to talk over with a cup of coffee. Please consider volunteering as a mentor: you can sign up at the DGS website under “Get Involved”. If you have any questions please see Patti Huff Smith.

We need volunteers willing to help with the refreshments at one monthly meeting a year. You can sign up at the DGS website in “Get involved”. We will be starting again in September and this is great way to get involved one time a year. Kristen Moore adds that we need one volunteer a month September through May and this is a great way to show your support. Kristen continues to thank all of the volunteers over the past year; we work as a group we get a lot more done. Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart. Kristen Moore presents the slate of officers of the 2018-2019 election. They are Todd DeDecker President, Jim Thornhill Vice President, Caroline Simpson Secretary, and Travis Tynes Treasurer. If there are no nominations from the floor, Kristen would like to consider a motion to accept the slate of officers as it stands. Dean Larson makes the motion and Tony

May General Meeting 1
Hanson seconds the motion to approve the 2018-2019 slate of officers as it stands. Motion carries by a show of hands.

We will be asking people help fill other offices and directorships. Tony recognized Karen Marshall for working with the newsletter. Unfortunately she cannot continue the position for next year. We are activity seeking for someone to take over the position. There are plenty of opportunities to help run the organization. Tony continues the conversation about thinking who will be the next-next president of the organization. Who will be the next president after Todd’s term is over.

Kristen gave the Vice President’s report on Seminar; in March we had Michael Strauss we had 96 attendees. On the survey we had 66% response and 96% said they were very satisfied. Our next speaker will be Mark Lowe on Saturday, August 4th. He will be speaking on research topics in the southern United States. Our fall seminar, on September 29th will be David E Rencher on your Irish ancestry.

Presented upcoming schedule for the special interest meetings coming up this summer. Our next schedule meeting will be Saturday, September 8th. The speaker is Betsy Mills on Dating, Preserving and sharing old photos. Kristen announces that she and her husband will be relocating to Michigan on May 21st and she will be resigning from the Board today. She will be greatly missed.

The program today is Patti Gillespie on Proving your Long-Lost Family the indirect Way. The business meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.