



**Historical Society of the
United States District Court
Northern District of Iowa
Executive Meeting**

October 30, 2014

Minutes

1. Paula Roby, President; Ray Scheetz, Vice President; Rich Murphy, Treasurer; and Kevin Collins, Secretary; were on the teleconference, as well as Robert Phelps, Clerk of Court.
2. Rich Murphy reported there were 42 paid memberships, including six members from the Sioux City area and two from out of state. Kevin Collins suggested that personal telephone calls to key individuals within the federal bar would go a long way towards increasing membership across the district. Paula Roby suggested everyone review the membership rules (bylaws) and consider a plan to reach out to influential members of the bar.
3. Paula Roby recommended the top priority of the Society should be obtaining and updating oral histories. We should also investigate the possibility of placing snippets of the histories on the interactive display in the Cedar Rapids History Center and on the court's website. A working group should be formed to pursue this project. Also seek approval to use snippets of documentary films that feature judges or attorneys from the district.
4. Ray Scheetz suggested posting pictures of the Society members on the Historical Society website to increase visibility and raise the profile of the Society.
5. Paula Roby recommended holding a social event, such as a ball, to raise the profile of the Historical Society and increase membership.
6. It was agreed that the Executive Committee should meet at least once a month and the entire membership should meet quarterly. The first meeting for the

entire membership will be Thursday, Nov 13, at noon in the Cedar Rapids Courthouse.

7. Possible Projects for the Historical Society

- a. Oral Histories
- b. Update the History Book (last updated in 2002)
- c. Increase Membership
- d. Update Website
- e. Update Cedar Rapids History Center
- f. Create a Sioux City Historical Display
- g. Annual Award for longevity/significant contributions to the federal bar