

Cherokee County Historical Society

Board of Directors Meeting: January 14, 2003

Meeting Minutes

On January 14, 2003, the Board of Directors held a scheduled meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Historic Courthouse. In attendance were President Kathy Day, Skip Spears, Past President, Sylvia Rankin, Vice President, Judson Roberts, Treasurer, Marcia Mosher, Secretary and Directors Jo Ellen Wilson and Rebecca Ray. Absent was Director Tom Kreuger.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed to the Board, reviewed and approved.

Reports of Standing Committees

Finance & Fundraising:

J. Roberts discussed the need for a credit card for the Board to facilitate operations. A proposal was received from a company serving non-profit historical societies which would seem to fill that need. A motion to proceed with obtaining the credit card was made by Skip Spears, seconded by Rebecca Ray and was approved.

It was noted that Rebecca Ray will be going before the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners January 21st to request \$50,000 be granted to the CCHS. A written proposal has been submitted to Chairman Mike Byrd and all council members (copy attached and hereby made a part of these minutes).

It was noted that an actual lease is needed for the use of the third floor facilities of the courthouse. Gerry Cooper, City Manager will be contacted about having a lease drawn up with a standard nominal \$1/year fee.

A proposed operating budget for 2003 was routed for review and discussion. A motion was made to table discussion until the Strategic Planning Seminar to be held January 18 was made by Rebecca Ray and seconded by Sylvia Rankin and approved.

Programs:

Mandy Johnson, Visual Materials Archivist at the Georgia Historical Society, will present a program on collecting and preserving old photographs during the February 18th business meeting. Jack Tuszynski (PhotoJack.net), will also be a part of the program. It is envisioned that scanning equipment will be on site at the Rock Barn and we would be able to scan members' photographs and give them archival quality copies at the meeting.

Dr. Sara Hill will be the speaker at our April banquet to be held at Reinhardt College. Dr. Hill is involved with the Cherokee Heritage Trails project and numerous other Cherokee associations. She is a specialist in the history of Cherokee women and the author of *Weaving New Worlds: Southeastern Cherokee Women and Their Basketry* and the curator of the "Native Lands" exhibit at the Atlanta History Center.

She, along with Perry McKinney and Jack Richardson will be investigating removal sites in the Fort Buffington area in the near future.

J. Wilson will put us on the calendar at Reinhardt for April 4th.

Speakers for future meetings were also distributed for discussion through the Virtual Board as follows:

Susan Dick

1. Papers, Photos and Books: Making Sense Out of Your Archival Collection
2. Archives Primer for Genealogists

** (she is also available to conduct one on one archives/library consultation visits with our board/staff)

Dr. Stan Deaton

1. Our Lives, Our Fortunes, and Our Sacred Honor: Georgia's Signers of the Declaration of Independence"
2. The Myth of the Perfect President: Presidential Scandals of the 19th Century
3. How Do You Lose a Founding Father? The Elusive Button Gwinnett
4. The Birth of the American Century: Savannah and the Legacy of the Spanish-American War

Dr. W. Todd Groce

1. The Civil War Career of Gen. John B. Gordon: A Study in Leadership
2. Historical Cemeteries of the South: A Photographic Tour
3. Saving Private Ryan: WWII in History and Memory
4. Using Military Records to Trace Your Ancestry

It was also noted that the Georgia State Poet Laureate is a native of Cherokee County and may be willing to speak at a meeting of the Society.

Publicity & Publications:

Anne Hill will be heading up this committee. Sylvia Rankin will continue to produce and format newsletter. The deadline for the next issue of our newsletter will be January 31st so as to be out prior to the February 18 meeting. We will now be able to obtain bulk postage mailing rates. S. Rankin also suggested that a purchase of a laser printer be considered so that the newsletter could be printed more economically in-house and made a motion to spend \$500 on the purchase of the printer. Motion was seconded by R. Ray and all approved.

Mention was made that all reminder cards for meetings will now go out first class mail as some members have not received their notices in a timely fashion.

Membership:

Tom Kreuger will continue to head this committee with Bernese Cagle as Co-Chair. She will specifically concentrate on corporate members and sponsorships. Discussion was held as to addressing the previously noted interests of the members on membership applications. Kathy Day is currently contacting members and attempting to link interest areas with needs on committees and task forces.

Discussion was held as to raising the dues. As the issue must be voted on by the general membership, it was tabled and will be brought before the Society at the February 18th meeting.

Historic Sites:

Discussion of the Corncrib/Cabin relocation was moved forward from Old Business. It was decided that S. Spears would talk to Buddy Blankenship about the possibility of moving the corncrib. J. Wilson will check with the City of Canton regarding plans that need to be filed for such a project. J. Roberts made a motion to move the corncrib and ask for forbearance from the City. Motion was seconded by R. Ray and was approved by the majority with S. Rankin voting against, wishing to note for the record that a foundation should be laid and liability issues investigated.

Reports of Special Committees

Crescent Farm Historical Center Capital Campaign: J. Roberts reported that all outstanding debt has been paid off. The donors plaques honoring contributors are ready and will be in place for the Strategic Planning Seminar.

President's Report

Kathy Day discussed her plans and hopes for the New Year. We discussed using our current strengths to concentrate on areas the Society has heretofore been unable to address. Ms. Day stated the Society had reached a momentum from which exciting projects such as the Singleton-Van Buren and could now be undertaken. She expressed her hopes that the upcoming National Trust Strategic Planning Seminar would assist us in focusing on our next steps.

Old Business

Singleton-Van Buren Exhibition: Discussion on the proposed Exhibition centered on the feasibility of doing the Exhibition during 2003. We are tentatively looking at the end of November, but will address more fully in the Strategic Planning Seminar January 18th.

J. Roberts will be willing to assume the Chair of the fundraising/capital campaign for the project, but a chair of the committee focused strictly on the Exhibition will be needed. A. Hill commented that we may also be able to explore Grass Roots Grants from the Arts Center for this project.

It was noted that we may be able to use the Exhibit as an opportunity for coalition building with other groups such as the Junior League, Arts Council, Towne Lake Arts Council, Bridge Mill Ladies Club, etc.

A portrait exhibit may also be staged during the same time as the Singleton-Van Buren Exhibition.

Newsletter Publication: S. Rankin reported on the status of content to date and noted that the deadline for submissions will be January 31.

Copier Purchase: S. Rankin reported that she had investigated an alternative to a traditional copier that we could all use as a printer from remote locations as well as the office stand-alone computer for a price comparable to a traditional small copier with feeder. M. Mosher made a motion that we authorize this purchase. Motion was seconded by K. Day and approved by all.

Strategic Planning Retreat: A strategic Planning seminar for the Board will be held Saturday, January 18th. Esther Hall of the National Trust For Historic Preservation will facilitate. All board members and Committee chairs with the exception of Tom Kreuger will attend. The Society has also asked individuals who have shown interest in future committee and or board work to attend.

Heritage Tourism Initiative Participation: S. Rankin reports that she will be meeting with Pam Carnes of the Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Sara Hill to discuss areas of participation available to the Society. Currently, it would appear that those opportunities would be in facilitating the identification of Cherokee archeological sites for the Heritage Trail opening in October.

S. Rankin requested that half the expenses of a proposed trip to the Cherokee Council meeting in NC could be underwritten by the Society. She feels involvement with this project would also be a significant opportunity for coalition building in the community with groups such as the Chamber, Scouting organizations, County Government, etc.

A question was raised as to whether JDN still has artifacts from the Wal-Mart archeological dig. The Society needs to get a copy of this report. Artifacts may be used in context of Heritage Trail.

Specific sites noted that should be included are the Long Swamp Creek and McGraw Substation.

J. Roberts made a motion to fund Ms. Rankin's trip not to exceed \$300, the motion was seconded by M. Mosher and was approved by all.

New Business

Annual Business Meeting: Will be Tuesday, February 18th at the Rock Barn. Annual statements will be presented in .pdf format on the website prior to the meeting. All past boards and Presidents will be sited and recognized.

Rock Barn Rentals: The Board discussed the issue of following up on requests for rental of the Rock Barn via office phone and email. J. Wilson made the suggestion that other organizations have had success in using a committee to handle these chores and giving each member one free use of the facility per year.

A reduction to the rental rate for family reunions not serving alcoholic beverages was also discussed.

It was also decided that a graphic banner and the capacity of the barn would be added to the intro frame on our website.

Brochure for Membership Dues: S. Rankin will complete after the newsletter is issued. The increase in dues must also be voted on at February 18th meeting in order to be incorporated in brochures and invoices. A. Hill suggested that an invoice for

membership continuation be sent first and then if no response the brochure. Membership invoices will be sent out by February 17th at the latest.

Openings on Advisory Board for Committee Chairs: We currently have openings for Genealogy and Museum Archives. K. Day is meeting with some prospective committee members who expressed interest through membership forms and other contacts. It was also suggested that since our website receives most hits in the Genealogy section, that a notice be placed there, as well as the asking for interested parties to contact Ms. Day. S. Rankin made a motion to make these changes; it was seconded by M. Mosher and approved by all.

Courthouse Office Cabinet: We have a cabinet downstairs in courthouse because it is too large to be moved to the third floor. J. Roberts suggested that we use it to do a display on membership and the Society.

Technology Issues: It was noted that the sound system donated by Adelpia needs to be installed. Charlie Bryant may be able to do this and J. Roberts will contact.

Calendar for Board Meetings/Advisory Board Meetings (Include Committee Chairs): The next Advisory Board Meeting will be held March 11th.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Mosher