

# Cherokee County Historical Society

Board of Directors Meeting: March 4, 2008

## Meeting Minutes

On March 4, 2008, the Board of Directors held a scheduled meeting at 6:30 p.m. at the Rock Barn in Canton.

In attendance

were President Marcia Mosher, Vice President Carla Barnes, Treasurer Jim Harris, Secretary Liza Griffin, Historical Society Executive Director Stefanie Joyner, Directors Hazel Cochran, Mary Johnston, Joan Ahrens, Dennis Burnett, Wanda Roach, Linda Statham, Joanie Castleberry, and Karen Smithwick.

The meeting was called to order at 6:39p.m. by President Marcia Mosher.

No minutes were available from the previous meeting.

## Old Business

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- ❖ Strategic Plan
  - Committees
    - Marcia Mosher stated and all agreed that the committees need to be more active. It should be determined whether the Programs Committee should be a formal committee and if so, meetings need to be set. Email Marcia for meeting suggestions.
    - Stefanie Joyner stated that a chairperson had been found for the Genealogy Committee.
- ❖ NTHP Grant
  - Stefanie Joyner stated that the Society was turned down for the competitive NTHP Grant which was a 1:1 match grant over 3 years.
    - only \$55,000 of the \$60,000 required was raised
    - two donors were still willing to give what had originally been pledged
      - Judson Roberts pledge.
      - The Teasley's pledge of \$30,000 over three years.
    - Other possible grants include the Johnston Foundation Grant and the Goddard Foundation Grant
  - Marcia Mosher stated that the NTHP grant was a seed grant to get an organization going and that the onus was on the organization to get the matching funds. Obtaining grants requires the staff to do the archiving so that time will be available for the Director to seek more grant funding.
- ❖ Budget
  - Stefanie Joyner explained that the \$27,000 shortfall in budget due to various reasons
    - The archivist position became full time.
    - Health insurance was being provided for both the Director and the Archivist
  - Stefanie stated the \$3000 in imaging fees was easily covered by an increase in memberships
    - 4 life memberships were obtained in the last month
  - There is money to cover the shortfall in the budget this year if necessary.
    - The sale of the Anderson property could be used to cover any shortfall.
  - Within the next couple of months the CCHS will receive \$25,000 from the county and \$5,000 from the city.
    - Dennis Burnett stated he was willing to help with finding ways of garnering increased monies from the county.
    - It was inquired as to whether the Society would be giving Derby tickets to elected officials as public relations gesture.
  - Fundraising

- Stefanie Joyner stated that due to various reasons, there would be no Homes Tour this year.
- Suggestions for fundraisers included:
  - Stefanie proposed that a program similar to Cobb Landmarks and Historical Society “Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner…” could be done at a relatively low cost.
  - Joan Ahrens suggested watching Oprah’s The Big Gift in order to learn how to more effectively raise money.
  - Marcia Mosher suggested using the jail and “arresting” individuals, having the individual raise “bail” for the Society.
  - Linda Statham indicated that books sales, at both local venues and online was an excellent fundraiser.
  - Online auctions.
- ❖ Woodstock Property
  - The Historical Society has made a counter offer of \$149,000 for the Anderson property.
    - Stefanie Joyner reported that we are currently paying \$1000 in interest monthly for the loan.
    - The unresolved issue goes to court on March 15, 2008
    - \$18,000 in back rent will be due if we win.
- ❖ Westview/Rock Barn Plan
  - Stefanie Joyner gave an update to the property
    - Postcard sent to neighborhood homeowners to invite them to a meeting on Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup> of March to view and learn about the potential plan for the property.
    - Nothing about the plans is set in stone at this point.
    - The meeting will share concept drawings.
    - One person has made serious inquiry into moving the house.
  - Joan Ahrens suggested that if no one was found to move the property, could parts and pieces be donated to Habitat for Humanity.

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## New Business

- ❖ Printing Books
  - Cherokee County History
    - Stefanie Joyner presented a proposal from Wadsworth publishing detailing the costs of creating two books for resale by the CCHS. She stated that Rebecca Johnston was interested in writing a book on Cherokee County and that she was looking at publishers and upfront cost. (the information packet is included as an attachment to these minutes)
      - The society could do presales in order to reduce upfront costs
      - Sales could be a possible budget surplus helper
      - Ms. Johnston would like to be paid \$5000 for writing which would give the Society editing rights.
        - ◆ She is willing to suspend payment until the book is completed which would put the \$5000 in the 2009 budget.
    - Joan Ahrens suggested Pamela Crawford as someone who would be able to publish the books at lower cost.
    - Dennis stated he thought it might be difficult to pre-sell 1000 books.
    - Ms. Joyner stated that she thought that the Heritage book was a presale in its second printing- she would find out whether that was the case.
  - Canton Cotton Mills
    - Ms. Joyner stated that this was a smaller book at a lower cost

- Mick Wagner, the proposed writer already has twenty pages done. If Mr. Wagner does the book, much of the work for the upcoming January exhibit on the Canton Mills will be done.
    - This book could be completed by June
    - Marcia Mosher stated that communications should occur with Pamela about publishing this book which she hoped would replicate the feel of the Mill Album.
      - This book would fulfill the mission of the Society
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  - **Motion was made to vote on History book, \$5000 to Rebecca Johnston, with final approval of manuscript by the CCHS so facts could be checked. All in favor, none opposed.**
- ❖ Homes Tour and other Fundraisers
- Stefanie Joyner stated that the Homes Tour and other fundraisers had already been discussed.
- ❖ Derby Day May 3, 2008
- Ms. Joyner stated that Wanda Roach and Joan Ahrens had graciously volunteered to be the leaders for the Derby Day celebration.
    - Sponsor folders now available.
    - The practice of sending a thank you gift of a photo disk will be continued this year as well
  - Marcia asked all board members to be on the lookout for big ticket silent auction items
  - Stefanie asked if it would be possible to offer reduced price tickets to individuals attending her leadership class.
    - It was determined that once a discounted price could be determined, this would be a good idea.
- ❖ HP Awards Nominations
- Ms. Joyner stated that nominations were still needed
    - The event will be held April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Gordy Center, Reinhardt College.
    - The speaker is Ray Luce.
    - It was also stated that participation for this event was down considerably in the past several years.
      - ◆ 75 attendees last year.
      - ◆ It was inquired if the event could be moved to a more central location:
        - The Lodge at Bridgemill?
        - If 75 or less, the Rock Barn could be site?
- ❖ Rock Barn rental fees.
- Stefanie Joyner presented a schedule of new Rock Barn rental fees (included as an attachment to these minutes)
    - Fees changed to encourage rental on different days.
    - Fees had not been increased due to parking situation
    - A new brochure for the Barn is needed.
  - A motion was made to approve the new fees. Motion approved, none opposed.
- ❖ Treasurers Report
- Jim Harris stated that the budget discussed previously.
  - CCHS Profit and Loss statement included as an attachment to these minutes.
- ❖ Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm by President Marcia Mosher