

Cherokee County Historical Society
Board of Directors Meeting
18 November, 2008

Meeting Minutes

On 18 November, 2008 the Board of Directors held a scheduled meeting at 6:30pm at the Rock Barn in Canton.

In attendance

were President Marcia Mosher, Vice President Carla Barnes, Secretary Liza Griffin, Treasurer Jim Harrison, Historical Society Executive Director Stefanie Joyner, Directors Mary Johnston, Mark Moore, Scott Evans, Joan Ahrens, Linda Statham, Wanda Roach, Mark Moore, Dennis Burnette, Joanie Castleberry, Patsy Kononen, Hazel Cochran, Karen Smithwick and Eric Ballinger.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Executive Director Stefanie Joyner.

Minutes from previous meeting were available.

Old Business

- Minutes from 3 previous meetings were approved by the board.
- Carla Barnes gave an update on the Soirees, the first of which is to be held this weekend.
 - Pickle Ball tournament in the afternoon with 24 confirmed players for A and B teams.
 - Cotton Ball at 7:00pm
 - Many individuals have come together to assist in this endeavor and have donated time talent and food.
 - Signs for transportation trolley and parking will be provided by the sheriff's office.
 - At this point over 100 tickets have been sold.
 - The next event will be the Chinese New Year Soiree in January hosted by Joan Ahrens
- Membership brochure is completed, lovely job
- Cookbook is ready for sale; it is a reprint of the 1993 book and is for sale for \$20.
- Ornaments will be shipped the first week in December.

New Business

- 2009 Budget – updated budget was approved by board. Many comments were made by various board members.
 - Stefanie stated that what is not in the present budget is the payment to Rebecca Johnston for her book. The amount is \$5000 and can be paid in stages.
 - The bank note on the Westview property next to the Rock Barn was paid down by \$100,000.00. This leaves a balance of approximately \$35,000.00 which is reflected on the balance sheet.
 - money from Foundations in the amount of \$10000 is not yet guaranteed, but is reflected in the budget.
 - The budget reflects a decrease in the amount given by local government) of approximately \$ 2500 due to the slowdown in the economy.
 - It was also noted that the bulk of membership renewals come in January and February. Actual YTD memberships \$11470 vs. \$17400 budgeted.
 - Stefanie stated Derby expenses must be cut for 2009 as we were over budget in 2008.
 - Marcia stated that Derby sponsorship needs to be sought beginning in January that this is our one opportunity for large sponsorship through the year.
 - Stefanie urged all board members to keep Derby Silent Auction in mind. Don't forget those "re-gifts!"

- At this point in the meeting, Dennis Burnette suggested that the Society recognize the Anderson family for their donation stating that this would perhaps encourage other families in this regard.
 - Perhaps naming a portion of the future redesigned Rock Barn site or creating a plaque or monument in their honor.
 - It was also suggested that a thank you note be sent to the family.

- Marcia Mosher stated that she was currently working with the Garden Club on the Westview sight to dress up the property and set the stage for future development. They are also seeking grants for a watering system for the area.

- Cotton Mill Photo Exhibit-
 - It was decided to create a donation opportunity with a large container at the door for this exhibit.
 - There has been no fee charged in the previous two exhibits but it is an additional expense for CCHS.
 - The event is held at the Rock Barn with artifacts from the mill as well as photos.
 - The photo CD will be for sale for \$15 as opposed to \$20 normally.

- Oral Histories Project
 - Stefanie presented to the board an idea for a possible oral history project to occur over the course of 9 months to year, going into each of the communities and spend a weekend or two taking oral histories from residents and collecting photographs.
 - The Tribune did a project similar to this working with local schools.

- Possibilities for person(s) to work on project include
 - a volunteer or
 - hire someone to go forward or
 - we could approach a student from Kennesaw who was working on a thesis in folklore or cultural anthropology
 - professor with class
 - historic sites committee
 - Mary Cissell did a project similar to this in Lathemtown to create a book but hers was limited to individuals from Orange Community Baptist Church.
 - It was discussed by many board members at this point that we need to get busy obtaining the oral histories of the older population of Cherokee County; we were losing individuals rapidly who could provide vital information.
 - Jim Harrison, Marcia Mosher, Mary Johnston, Karen Smithwick, Patsy Kononen and Liza Griffin all expressed interest in helping with the project of obtaining oral histories work will proceed soon to assist Jim in his obtaining an oral history from a gentleman in Lathemtown and the group will meet in January to move forward.
- Grants
 - Stefanie presented a long list of possible grant opportunities that could be pursued. Liza will meet with Stefanie and Meghan at the office on Wednesday to work on grant opportunities.
- Events
 - Preservation Awards Banquet next April 17th
 - Always a break even event
 - Where to hold?
 - Conference Center \$350
 - Bluffs
 - Cash Bar?
 - Plated Dinner?
 - David Bottoms to speak
 - At this point all program dates have been set for next year.
 - Membership meeting is December 2nd at the Rock Barn and is the annual Christmas Party
- Endangered List
 - The list is expansive but will be narrowed down to 5 properties max.
 - Stefanie suggested putting the list of properties online so that membership could vote on them and to increase general interest.
 - How do we assist the property owners afterwards?
 - Land Trust

- Dennis Burnette expressed his concern over the naming of the list. Stefanie stated that this was a common usage in historic preservation but that other terminology would be investigated.

Stefanie brought to the attention of the board that the Buffington House was for sale stating it would make a great location for a museum. The owner is asking \$220,000 for the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm by President Marcia Mosher who handed the gavel over to Carla Barnes, incoming President. All are grateful for Marcia's leadership.

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