

Board of Directors Meeting

Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc.

October 10, 2023

MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home Board of Directors met at 203 S. Commerce Avenue, Russellville City Hall, First Floor Conference Room, on October 10, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. President Randy Hendrix called the meeting to order.

Board Members present:

Suzanne Alford
Margaret Bagby
Randy Hendrix
Bob Hiegel
Betsy McGuire
Jane Pittman
Julie Paladino Vaughn

Also in Attendance:

Sam Bloodworth	Irma Jackson
Mary Cohoon	Sara Jondahl
Ellen Collins	Victoria Marchant
Deb DeJohette	Charity Park
Toi Drummer	Sarah Stephens
Array Gilkey	Evelyn Webb
Debi Headley	Addie Wilson

Call to Order & Welcome Directors and Guests – President Randy Hendrix called the meeting to order. A moment of silence for prayer and good thoughts was done for fellow Board Director, Mr. Steve Bennett, for his health recovery.

Roll Call – Board Secretary, Ms. Julie Paladino Vaughn announced roll call. Mr. Steve Bennett and Mr. Marshall Morris were absent.

Finding of Quorum – Mr. Hendrix found a quorum.

Approval of Minutes – Ms. Suzanne Alford made a correction stating that Walmart Corporate had not been contacted or had information sent but will soon. Ms. Betsy McGuire made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with correction. Mr. Bob Hiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Treasurer Margaret Bagby

Ms. Margaret Bagby provided the Finance Report. She stated the current balance to be at \$59,870.90. Ms. McGuire added that Mr. Daniel Shoptaw sent the monthly financial statement and general ledger and would like a few members to sit down and look at the breakdown of the classifications. A copy of the Arvest bank statement ending in September and reports from Mr. Shoptaw are attached to these minutes. It was decided that the information will be reviewed during the November 6th

Fundraising Committee meeting. Ms. McGuire also stated that the first-floor conference room for the regular monthly Board meeting for November will not be available. The Outreach Committee will review other room accommodations.

City Planner Report – Sara Jondahl

No report.

Sub Committee Reports:

Design/Planning – Bob Hiegel, Chair

Mr. Hiegel reported that we are at the end of phase one of the construction and the house has been lowered on to concrete piers. The temporary power poles are up. We are working with Mr. Kendall Hearn and have given him the authority to take out one window to begin repairs to it. This will enable him to get a good idea of what the total price would be for repairing all 18 windows in the house. Mr. Bennett has been working hard on the easement requirements for the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP). Mr. Hiegel also added that we have also been waiting to hear back from Mr. Trey Smith, the City Attorney, on us acquiring lots 9 and 10 through eminent domain. Mr. Hiegel expects that we should have some information on that very soon. We got a quitclaim deed from New Life Church which came to the Bridge Church, then we must give it to the city and get a warranty deed on that because it was a quitclaim deed. We will need to go back to the attorneys for assistance with the process. Mr. Hiegel stated it is progress, but we will make it happen. We have contacted Mr. Dwight Patterson in Little Rock; he has done several types of appraisals that have been approved by the AHPP. We have contracted with him to start, which is a minimum cost of \$3,000, half of that is due up front. To make that happen we are working on title insurance which is complicated because of the quitclaim deeds. We have been working with Eddy and Ward, local attorneys, on the title insurance. We are also working on getting property insurance on the home which is very difficult to get for a 100-year-old unoccupied house to be insured. We are proposing to submit builders risk insurance which is normally provided by a general contractor but since we are making repairs ourselves, we have found two different firms that are willing to. We are reaching out to get a quote on that. After we get all this done, we must have a resolution before the City Council that they need to adopt. Please find a copy of the minutes of the Design/Planning Committee meeting for October attached to these minutes.

Fundraising – Suzanne Alford, Chair

Ms. Suzanne Alford stated we have received the new big checkboard to use with pictures of donors and for publicity. The checkboard will be used for donations \$1,000.00 and up. It will be great to use for a photo op. Ms. Alford also added we do have a list of those that need to get a picture with the check who have already donated \$1,000.00 or more. Ms. Jane Pittman stated she was able to contact Matt Duffield with Big Materials on donating. A packet was also dropped off at Cogswell Motors. Ms. Alford added that they want to get Tyson and Walmart a packet. Ms. Pittman said she feels good with the momentum that fundraising is having right now. Ms. Array Gilkey had checks from donors in a total amount of \$475.00. Everyone was very appreciative of Ms. Gilkey's fundraising work.

Operation – Julie Paladino Vaughn, Chair

Ms. Paladino Vaughn updated members that we received the golf polos that will be worn by Mr. Randy Hendrix, Mr. Shawn Richie, and Mr. Raymond Peevy in the Russellville Chamber of Commerce golf tournament. Ms. Sarah Stephens donated the amount due for the polos. Everyone was very appreciative of the donation by Ms. Stephens. Ms. Paladino Vaughn added there is a sign-

up sheet for the upcoming Downtown Fall Fest held on Saturday, October 28th. The volunteer slots are in two-hour increments. Any help is appreciated. Ms. McGuire stated that the drawing for Joshua's Jewelry will be held towards the end of Fall Fest. There has been discussion about designing a sign for the Latimore Home, which will not be placed on the property for a while. It was also discussed that the eclipse is happening on April 8th, and it would be nice to get a temporary sign on the home by the event. There will be a lot of people possibly gathering at James School Park, and having a sign visible would be beneficial. There are four Board of Directors whose terms are ending in December 2023: Ms. Alford, Mr. Hendrix, Ms. McGuire, and Ms. Pittman. All stated they are willing to stay on. Ms. McGuire would like to see two more Board of Directors positions added to have a total of 11 Board of Directors. It was decided to vote on the four terms that will continue during the month of November Board meeting, as well as adding two more seats to the Board.

Outreach – Betsy McGuire, Chair

Ms. McGuire reported that the visit of Mr. Jay Jones was wonderful. He wrote a letter to each Board of Director with his appreciation. Ms. McGuire thanked Ms. Toi Drummer for all her work with the Facebook page. The meeting with the Home School Co-Op students went well, as did the Russellville Memory Project. Our monthly radio program is the second Thursday of the month. Ms. McGuire and Mr. Marshall Morris will attend and discuss recent news. Ms. McGuire reminded those to sign up to volunteer at Fall Fest. Mr. Sam Bloodworth with American Creative Workshop was in attendance to give a presentation on brick pavers for fundraising. He discussed his work that he has done with engraving. The brick pavers could be engraved as a fundraising opportunity. He also does work with acrylic signs and marble. A 4x8 brick paver would be around \$30 - \$35 and an 8x8 brick paver would cost approximately \$50-\$55. A temporary wooden sign can also be made with a list of the donors displayed on it. Ms. McGuire thanked Mr. Bloodworth for the information he provided. Ms. McGuire brought up the idea of ordering ornaments made for the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home to sell. She had an earlier conversation with Ms. Freddie Harris who would be happy to purchase a large amount if ordered. The minimum amount we could order is 100. The artwork would need to be decided on, either using the new logo or existing. Please see the order form with additional information attached to these minutes. Ms. Bagby made a motion to order 200 ornaments. Ms. Pittman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Please find a copy of the Outreach Committee meeting minutes of October attached to these minutes.

Old Business:

New Business:

Ms. Christie Graham needed to reschedule the check presentation from A&P.

Announcements:

Russellville Downtown Fall Festival, Saturday, October 28th
Committee Meetings - Tuesday, November 7, First Floor Conference Room, City Hall
Board of Directors Meeting – TBD

Adjournment – Mr. Hendrix.