

Board of Directors Meeting
Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc.
May 11, 2021
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 May 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. President Randy Hendrix called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

Suzanne Alford
Margaret Bagby
Steve Bennett
Erma Booth
Randy Hendrix
Bob Hiegel
Betsy McGuire
Marshall Morris
Julie Paladino

Also in Attendance:

Mary Cohoon
Judy Galloway
Mayor Richard Harris
Debi Headley
Ima Jackson
Sara Jondahl
Victoria Marchant
Charity Park
Aileen Pineda
Megan Selman
Terry Thomas

Call to Order & Welcome Directors and Guests – President Randy Hendrix called the meeting to order.

Roll Call – Secretary Julie Paladino announced roll call. Members absent during roll call were Erma Booth and Marshall Morris. Both members were able to make it to the meeting after roll call.

Finding of Quorum – A quorum was found by Mr. Hendrix.

Approval of Minutes – Mr. Hendrix made the announcement for the approval of the minutes from April 13, 2021.

Ms. Betsy McGuire had a few changes. At the top of the page from the April minutes, Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc. needs to be in place of where it says Latimore Tourist Home Committee. On the second page, it should read James School Park not Jamestown Park and following that it should read Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home Board, not Latimore Tourist

Home Committee. At the very bottom of the second page, it should read Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc., not Friends of the Latimore Home, Inc. In addition, Erma Jackson is misspelled under the attendance section. The correct spelling is Ima Jackson. Mr. Steve Bennet made the motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Bob Hiegel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Treasurer Margaret Bagby

Ms. Bagby announced a beginning balance of \$600.00. The ending balance as of the meeting date of May 11, 2021 stands at \$650.00. A donation of \$50.00 was received from Ms. Mary Cohoon on April 12th in honor of Tyrone Williamson. Mr. Hiegel made the motion to approve. Ms. McGuire seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ms. Bagby suggested to recognize the donations that are received in honor of someone at the Latimore Tourist Home once renovations are complete. A copy of the financial report and bank statement are attached to these minutes.

City Planner Report – Sara Jondahl

Ms. Sara Jondahl invited Mr. Terry Thomas to the meeting. Mr. Thomas is the Director of the City of Russellville Recreation and Parks Department. Ms. Jondahl stated that the Design/Planning sub-committee met on April 20th and May 4th and Mr. Thomas was invited to those meetings which it was disclosed that the James School Park was funded by a grant in 1980, and if the Latimore Tourist Home goes in that park, a new park would need to be swapped. A potential place could be where the Verizon tower was going to be at one point. It has to be an outdoor park with the use of the same square footage for outdoor recreation. It is a long and expensive process because you have to do a local appraisal done first and then a yellow book appraisal. It could be \$5,000 to \$10,000 a piece for the appraisal costs. Mayor Richard Harris asked Mr. Thomas if buying out the grant would be an option due to the costs of possibly buying new land and paying for appraisal costs. Mr. Thomas stated he would need to check into that.

Sub Committee Reports:

Design/Planning – Bob Hiegel, Chair

Mr. Bennett stated at the last Board meeting we voted to change some items in the Articles of Incorporation which had been passed on to the Secretary of the State and we are waiting for approval for those changes. Also, during the April meeting, it was voted to go with the long form with the 501c3 application. Mr. Bennett would like to bring that up again after he had more discussion on the types of application forms. Ms. Megan Selman spoke on her experience with grant applications with being the Director for the Boys and Girls Club of the River Valley. Mr. Bennett suggested to go with the EZ form. Mr. Hiegel made a motion to go with the EZ form and override the vote to go with the long form that was voted on during the April meeting. Ms. Suzanne Alford seconded the motion. Motion carried. A copy of the Update of Legal Document Filings is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Hiegel spoke on the design process of the Latimore Tourist Home. Mr. Hiegel added that the contractor for the new pavilion and bathrooms will do the best he can do complete the project by the Juneteenth event, but he does have until July 6th to complete it. Mr. Hendrix stated that Mr. Tarshawn Whitehead is organizing another event for Juneteenth. Ms. Selman added that there is a Board for the event and it will be held at the downtown Depot Park in Russellville. Mr. Hendrix spoke to Mr. Whitehead about the event, and that maybe next year we can join forces to make it

bigger. The Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home event will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 19th. Ms. Alford suggested to have information at both places. Mayor Harris suggested to invest in building displays to have at the event and future events for a campaign marketing tool to help raise additional funds. Ms. Selman added that the other event is from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to help benefit the downtown businesses. Ms. McGuire added it might be good to add someone from the Friends of the Latimore Tourists Home Board to the other Board who is hosting the Depot Park Juneteenth event. Mr. Hendrix spoke on a possible design of a t-shirt. Richard Peevy is who Mr. Hendrix said could possibly assist with the design. He is a freelance artist and is from the James School Park community. Ms. McGuire suggested nametags to have for the Smithsonian Traveling Green Book Exhibit at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center in Little Rock on Thursday, May 20th. Ms. Jondahl and Ms. Victoria Marchant suggested buttons which would be quick and easy.

Fundraising – Suzanne Alford, Chair

Operation – Julie Paladino, Chair

Outreach – Betsy McGuire, Chair

Old Business:

Continuing all necessary steps in establishment of FOTLTH as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit:
Report on submission of Legal documents/Amending the Articles of Incorporation and update on IRS 1023 Form – Steve Bennett
Juneteenth – Saturday, June 19th - meeting residents of James School Park Neighborhood – Randy Hendrix
Update on establishing a presence on the Chamber of Commerce website for Friends of the Latimore Home, Inc. Information – Julie Paladino
Ms. Paladino had not heard back from the Chamber of Commerce on sharing the city website link of the FOTLTH page to their own website, but stated she will keep everyone updated.

New Business:

Fundraising – Grant applications, private donations, and sponsorships – Betsy McGuire
Ms. McGuire asked if any information that Ms. Selman or others may get pertaining to grants that might not apply to them if they could forward it to Ms. Jondahl for the FOTLTH to research.

Announcements:

Reminder of Smithsonian Traveling Green Book Exhibit at the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center in Little Rock on Thursday, May 20th at 6:00 p.m. – Betsy McGuire
Important Dates & Deadlines – Next Board meeting is Tuesday, June 8th at 12:00 p.m., First Floor Conference Room of City Hall.

Adjournment – President Randy Hendrix