

**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc.**  
**November 9, 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 November 9, 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  
Julie Paladino

Also in Attendance:

Mary Cohoon  
Ellen Collins  
Judy Galloway  
Debi Headley  
Elvin Jackson  
Yvonne Jackson  
Sara Jondahl  
Victoria Marchant  
Charles Nichols Jr.  
Charity Park  
Jane Pittman  
Ebony Thompson

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

**Roll Call** – Secretary Julie Paladino announced roll call. Board member Marshall Morris was absent.

**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 October 12, 2021. Ms. Margaret Bagby made a motion to move to approve the minutes. Ms. Erma Booth seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report** – Treasurer Margaret Bagby

Ms. Bagby announced the current balance to be at \$47,790.55. Mr. Hendrix referenced how the October Fall Fest went with having a booth set up and emphasized how important it is to have

conversations and be present anywhere that we can be for those conversations. Ms. Suzanne Alford made a motion to accept the Finance Report as presented. Mr. Steve Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried. A copy of the bank statement is attached to these minutes.

**Special Business:** Consideration to appoint Ms. Jane Pittman as a new Board Member. Ms. Booth will be stepping off as a Board Member. Ms. Betsy McGuire read aloud the stipulations in Article 4 Section 4.4 on being a Board Member. Section 4.5 was also read aloud. All items were fulfilled for Ms. Pittman to be a Board Member. Ms. Alford made a motion to accept Ms. Pittman as a Board Member. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **City Planner Report – Sara Jondahl**

No Report.

#### **Sub Committee Reports:**

##### **Design/Planning – Bob Hiegel, Chair**

Mr. Bob Hiegel stated a visit was conducted at the Bridge Church on obtaining the property that they were offering. The biggest item is acquiring property located in Block 40 which is owned by someone in New York. Mr. Bennett explained the Phase 1 Project Milestones handout. Please see the handout attached to these minutes. Mr. Bennett stated he is working on a T-Mobile grant. Mr. Bennett emphasized that there is money to still raise to get to the point to move the house. The review for the relocation approval by the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program (AHPP) Board will be in April of 2022. Please see a complete Design/Planning report attached to these minutes.

##### **Fundraising – Suzanne Alford, Chair**

Mr. Bennett discussed the Facebook page that was put together by Mr. Brandon Holt. Mr. Hendrix emphasized to keep the page active by promoting it with thoughts, pictures, and quotes from people. Every little bit helps. Mr. Bennett stated that accountant Mr. Daniel Shoptaw is still supporting us and will help us with our spreadsheet for the end of the year tax I90 form. Mr. Bennett also discussed the office space that the Board has located in City Hall on the second floor. This is a good space to put together any packets, agenda items, etc. for meetings. A Home Town grant is also being worked on by Mr. Bennett. He is working on collecting three to five letters that are needed to submit with the grant. Mr. Elder Jackson was present during the meeting with his wife Yvonne. His great, great, great, grandfather was Mr. James Park, the first black professor in Russellville and was the principal at the James School in which he started. Pope County Judge Ben Cross wrote a letter in support of the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home efforts. Please see a copy of the letter attached to these minutes. Ms. Alford made a motion to publish the letter from Judge Ben Cross. Mr. Bennett seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ms. McGuire discussed the Historic Preservation Restoration grant from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. Ms. McGuire will be speaking with the City Council at the agenda prep meeting held on Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup> on the applying for the matching grant. Ms. Alford encouraged members to make contacts to help with fundraising. Ms. Debi Headley put together a marketing flyer on the Latimore Home. Please see the flyer attached to these minutes. Please see a complete Fundraising report attached to these minutes.

**Operation** – Julie Paladino, Chair

Ms. Paladino discussed having an annual meeting for the first of the year to go over goals, the mission, and or go over anything needed. It was decided to have the annual meeting immediately following the Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> regular Board meeting. The meeting is open to the public. Ms. McGuire stated it is important to mention, we love the input from the public, but when it comes voting on items, motions, and items to vote on, that is for Board Members.

**Outreach** – Betsy McGuire, Chair

Ms. McGuire stated we are continuing our civic club presentations, which four have been completed plus the Downtown Art walk. The Lions Club and the Rotary Club will be presented to next. Before October Fall Fest arrived, Ms. McGuire was able to get a Square account setup for receiving card payments. The board has two Square devices, one for an iPhone and one for an android. \$37.00 was obtained during the Fall Fest using the Square. Ms. McGuire mentioned the handout that discusses Federal Writers' Project: Slave Narrative Project, Vol. 2, Arkansas, Part 4, Jackson-Lynch. Please see a copy of the handout attached to these minutes. Ms. Charity Park discussed the website that is now live for the Latimore Tourist Home. Ms. McGuire discussed the handout named Vision for A New Life and A New Use for the Latimore Tourist Home. Please see a copy of the handout attached to these minutes. Ms. Paladino stated that she would contact the City IT Department to see if they could place the new Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home website link to the city page that highlights the Latimore Home. The Art Walk Holiday Glow will be Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in which the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home booth will be set up. Joshua's Fine Jewelry has generously let the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home Board use their entry space for the event. Creating an Instagram page for the Latimore Home was also discussed. Please see the complete Outreach report attached to these minutes.

**Old Business:****New Business:****Announcements:**

Ms. McGuire encouraged all in attendance to be thinking of potential Board Members who might want to serve, especially from the James School Park Neighborhood or who have a history with the Latimore Home. Mr. Hendrix encouraged members that anytime they can speak about the Latimore Home to do so, to spread the goodness. Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m., First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

**Adjournment** – President Randy Hendrix