

Board of Directors Meeting
Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home, Inc.
December 14, 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 December 14, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. President Randy Hendrix called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

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

Also in Attendance:

Erma Booth
Mary Cohoon
Ellen Collins
Gretchen Douthit
Judy Galloway
Debi Headley
Sara Jondahl
Victoria Marchant
Charity Park
Sarah Stephens
Dorothy Stewart

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 Ms. Jane Pittman 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 November 9, 2021. Ms. Betsy McGuire made a motion to move to approve the minutes. Mr. Steve Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report – Treasurer Margaret Bagby

Ms. Bagby announced the current balance to be at \$48,145.55. \$40.00 was made during the December Downtown Holiday Glow and Art Walk. Mr. Hendrix referenced how well the December Downtown Holiday Glow and Art Walk went with having a booth set up, which was

set up outside of Joshua's Fine Jewlery. Donation checks from Judy and William Galloway for \$1,000.00 and from Van Kleef and Vaughn Law Office for \$250.00 were received by Ms. Bagby at the December meeting. \$20.00 was also contributed from a t-shirt sale. A copy of the bank statement is attached to these minutes.

City Planner Report – Sara Jondahl
No Report.

Sub Committee Reports:

Design/Planning – Bob Hiegel, Chair

Mr. Bob Hiegel stated the Design Committee had a board meeting prior to the monthly Board meeting. Mr. Randy Hendrix, Ms. Suzanne Alford and or Ms. Betsy McGuire will talk to the neighbors into possibly selling part of their property to the Latimore Tourist Home to put the Latimore Home on. The Bridge Property is in the process of accepting a quit claim deed that will transfer to the city of Russellville.

Fundraising – Suzanne Alford, Chair

Ms. Alford stated the Fundraising Committee met last week. A Facebook Page is in the works of being created. Anytime initials are used referencing a government agency, it needs to be spelled out. An art sale is still in the works for being held in the spring. There is also an exhibit up for the Latimore Tourist Home at the Pope County Library that Ms. Alford put together. Mr. Bennett stated that the T-Mobile grant will be submitted next week and the tax-exempt status arrived in the mail which means the organization is good to go as a tax exempt organization. Please see a copy of the document attached to these minutes, as well as a complete report from the Fundraising Committee meeting.

Operation – Julie Paladino, Chair

Ms. Paladino stated that Stripe offers discounts to non-profit organizations. Stripe is the company that handles the fee processing with the Swipe device which is used during events when a credit/debit card is used to donate and or purchase an item sch as the Latimore Tourist Home logo t-shirt. Once more information on the discount rate is acquired, it will be shared to the Board.

Outreach – Betsy McGuire, Chair

The noon Rotary presentation that was set for December has been moved to January. There is also a Rotary meeting that meets at 6:00 a.m., and that could be another presentation opportunity. The Downtown Holiday Glow Art Walk was a great success. Mayor Richard Harris agreed that the Board could do a short presentation to update the City Council in January. Ms. McGuire stated that the Board might need to look at presenting to the Pope County Quorum Court also. Ms. McGuire shared that she has been working on a scrap book for the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home Board. Ms. Charity Park had some questions regarding the analytics to the website. Ms. Park sent an updated donation page to the Board members for review. The organization currently is not getting a lot of donations through the website page. Ms. Park suggested to have a donor wall showing the name of the donors and leaving the amount off. A motion from Mr. Bennett was made to make the changes to the website. Ms. Bagby seconded the

motion. Motion carried. The Board thanked Ms. Park for all her work towards the website. Mr. Hendrix stated that the radio wants to do a monthly update on the Friends of the Latimore Tourist Home. Ms. McGuire suggested that the Board might want to look at getting some equipment, such as for scanning in pictures and or documents and doing recordings. In addition, Ms. McGuire suggested we do something for Black History Month which is in February. Ms. Alford added that she spoke to Ms. Sherry Simpson with the Pope County Library on starting a section specifically for African Americans. Mr. Hendrix talked to Mr. John Bynum at the December Holiday Glow and Art Walk. His father and Mr. Hendrix father were good friends. Mr. Hendrix proceeded to tell a story on Mr. Bynum, also referred to as Dean Bynum who was a Dean at Arkansas Tech University. Ms. McGuire stated that Ms. Kelly Jones is doing an African American course at Arkansas Tech University. Ms. Bagby stated that if anyone ever needed to know something, they always went to Mr. Randall, Mr. Hendrix father. Mr. Randall Hendrix documented many things, such as letters and dates of those who passed away. Ms. McGuire urged to get those documents digitalized and archived at the Latimore Tourist Home, Arkansas Tech University Library, and the Pope County Library, Ms. Alford added that Ms. Rita Richardson put up a recording space when the Depot celebrated its 100th anniversary. Mr. Bennett stated that the Latimore Tourist Home legally operates off a calendar year and December is the month the finances close for the year. Mr. Bennett stated this is a time to celebrate for all the things that have been accomplished. Mr. Hendrix agreed with Mr. Bennett and said we are doing good things. Ms. McGuire discussed the Annual Board meeting, which is scheduled in January following the regular Board meeting. Ms. McGuire added how thankful she is in getting to know each Board Member more and the city of Russellville staff, and so many people who are interested in the project.

Old Business:

New Business:

Announcements:

Next Board Meeting is Tuesday, January 11th at 12:00 p.m., First Floor Conference Room, City Hall. An Annual Board meeting will be held immediately following the regular Board meeting.

Adjournment – President Randy Hendrix