

Historic Bath Foundation, Inc.
Annual Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2013 Bath Town Hall
11:00-12:00

Chairman Surry Everett welcomed everyone and opened with asking for approval for rules of the meeting and agenda. Jim Edwards moved to approve. Second by Josie Hookway. None opposed. The chairman asked if there was a 25% quorum by proxy and/or present members (68 of 225 members present: 51 by proxy and 17 present). A quorum was determined. None opposed. The chairman asked if everyone had a chance to review the draft minutes and then gave time for everyone to read them. Ed Clement motioned to accept minutes as presented. Marti Buchanan Second. No further discussion.

Treasurer's Report

Mariann reported the total cash balance has increased by \$10,761.59 during 2012 bringing the cash balance to \$230,843.63 at the end of 2012. General contributions were \$26,995.00 with 10,000.00 of this coming from one contribution. Total income was \$36,196.97 and total expenses were \$17,026.06. Reduction of assets included \$8,160.00 for Lawson Walk, and \$1,639.81 for The Margaret. At December 31, 2012, we have restricted assets for: Museum \$106,850.77, DCR/museum \$15,625.02, The Margaret \$4,622.46. Investments include \$50,000.00 in a CD at Southern Bank 5/25/2012, for 11 months, rate of .5%. As of June 2013, 2013, during the first six months of 2013 the total cash balance for HBF has increased by \$8,419.42 bringing the cash balance to \$239,263.05. General Contributions include \$17,740.00 and investment income \$92.49. Expenses include \$450.00 in grants, \$7,869.53 for membership expenses which includes supplies for future years, and other expenses of \$1,093.54. At June 26, 2013 restricted funds remain the same. The 2012 e postcard return was file and accepted by the IRS. Current unrestricted assets total \$109,963.70 with outstanding expenses of Tri-centennial checks \$2,201.00, Glebe House Grant \$10,000, Noe House Grant \$3,250.00, Library Grant \$6,446.00, and Display cases for Gallery/Museum \$1,600.00. The Chairman asked if there were any questions. Jim Edwards asked why the Tri-centennial expense continues to be outstanding. Mariann said she would work on clearing those funds. Mariann inquired if we could move to close the Bonner Grant since nothing had been paid out in some time. Blanche asked if \$500.00 could be set aside for maintenance otherwise she motioned to close out the line item and current balance of around 4500.00. Second by Gene. No further discussion. Sandra Harrison motioned to accept report. Second by Jim Edwards.

Reports of Officers

President: Surry said we have had a good year and we are making good progress in our effort to assist the high school and library groups. HBF is still pursuing utilization of the Gallery as a pre-cursor to the Museum in the NW wing of the school. BHSP has received bids for the library/gallery project and the cost has been reported to be more than expected. HBF is considering appropriating funds towards the gallery project but we still need to work out an agreement of HBF's interest in the NW wing so therefore no funds will be released until a satisfactory agreement is reached. We will discuss this at the quarterly meeting. Surry shared that HBF received a \$250 grant from The Winston-Salem Foundation as general support in honor of the work and service of Gene Roberts to the Town of Bath on advice of Frank and Laura McNair.

Vice President: Gene reported that we had our Awards Ceremony in December and honored our founding fathers. This was the first event held in the newly restored Swindell's Store and we had our largest attendance for an award ceremony. We invite nominations from any member for outstanding or unusual contributions to Bath for the 2013 event. Surry reminded everyone that nominations can be sent via email to historicbath@yahoo.com.

Reports of Committees

Small Grants: Karen shared the committee had received three applications and two were recommended to the Board for approval. The two were for the Historic Site Van Der Veer location sign of \$450.00 and for a portion of the request for the Genealogical and Local History Section of the library of \$6446.00 since our total budget was \$5,000.00. The BOD voted to approve both grants with a full award to the Library. Gene shared that donations for the Genealogical and Local History section also consisted of 400 books related to Beaufort County, NC history, and Bath genealogy and 375 DVD movies. Josie inquired whether the section will be climate controlled for rare books. Gene said the architect and library engineers indicate the area will be kept within a 10 degree range of control and that climate should not be an issue. Karen mentioned that a letter was sent to the third applicant who was seeking funds to excavate a small sunken vessel in the Pamlico Sound. The small grants committee requested further clarification of whether State approval for an underwater archeological investigation had been received. In addition, we inquired where found items would eventually be housed. We encouraged them to re-apply next year with additional information as requested.

Museum: Gene said he and Elaine Harrison had been securing display cabinets for the Gallery and that we probably need just a few more custom cabinets. Sandra shared that they had gone to the Museum of the Albemarle and the curator is willing to share information with us for proper museum controls. Josie mentioned that she knows of books from 1680 that may be available for display.

Finance/Fundraising: Mariann said the Awards ceremony was a huge success and that we also recruited members and received funds during the event. She asked Sandra if we could have an event in the library space before it was occupied. We could co-sponsor the event with BHSP. Sandra said she would check into it.

Historic Research/Curriculum: Betsy explained the next project is to create a more expansive Walking Tour Brochure which would include digital elements.

Historic Research/Inventory: Karen reported that the town had appropriated \$5000.00 for the purpose of bringing in a preservation planner to complete the Architectural Guidelines. Surry mentioned that we will consider assisting them financially with this undertaking. We will discuss this at the quarterly meeting.

Membership: deferred to quarterly meeting.

Report of Ex-officio Directors

Mayor of Bath: Surry received an email from Jimmy indicating that the waste water expansion should increase our capability from 19,000 gal/per day to 40,000 per day. This means increased number of hookups – residential and business, increased business expansion – more seats at local restaurants, new business's coming to Town. This project is on schedule for completion in November/December 2013. The Town Council has approved plans for a Family Dollar store to be built on Carteret Street past the Post Office. The developers have worked with the Town to incorporate changes to appearance, signage, and parking to give it more period appeal than just your average store.

Chairman Historic Bath Commission: absent.

Manager Historic Bath State Historic Site: Leigh shared the Site had a good year, although our visitation hasn't grown as we have needed. We depend on local visitation to special programming, such as military encampments, lectures or movie nights. Help keep the case strong for keeping the doors open. We never know when we'll be targeted. New ways we are trying to grow interest in the site are with technology. Our Facebook page has grown from 195 likes to 609; we are working with HBC, HBF, and the Garden Club to broader interpretation to include the grounds; by working with Cap'n Joe Sizemore, offering Tuesday boat tours of Bath leaving from the State Dock; the inaugural candlelight tour of the Palmer-Marsh House last year and the Bonner House this upcoming Christmas; the creation of a Ghost Walk for this fall; inviting locals to come get fresh produce from our garden for a small donation, and continuing strong programs but backing off from less successful ones. We are continuing with 2nd Saturday programs this year with one being July 13th, British invasion of Ocracoke, represented by British and American forces. The August 10th program will feature The Tar Heel Civilians. I would like to use this platform to thank Bath Volunteer Fire Department for having to make three trips to the site this past year. They always respond quickly. I would also like to thank

the Foundation for working to gain signage for Bath on HWY 17. The Foundation also approved a small grant this past year for the Site to get signs marking the Van Der Veer exhibit building on the site. I appreciate the support of this organization to Historic Bath.

Bath High School Preservation President: Sandra Harrison thanked the Foundation for being the second largest contributor to BHSP which assisted in achieving milestones on roof and window repair/replacement. We have found that with the bid process there is always a range and we are working/negotiating the contract. We are breaking out the costs of the library, gallery due to Golden Leaf funds being utilized for only a certain portion of the Gallery. We want to do it right but we may need to make cuts. We can offset these changes later with special projects which can be done at a later date. Josie inquired about the time frame for displaying items. Surry said that HBF would like to bring an architect on board soon to create a plan for the museum in the NW Wing. Sandra highly recommends doing this as soon as possible. Josie mentioned the Visitor Center needs and annex because they are cramped. Jim Edwards mentioned that he would like to see BHSP create a Strategic Plan as similar to what HBF has done. Gene mentioned that the Gallery as a pre-cursor the museum will be utilized for displaying museum quality items and that we will have proper climate controls and security.

Old Business: None

New Business

Surry reported that Jerry and Robin were not available to serve another term and he thanked them for their service. He asked for the nominating report.

Nominating Committee report: Karen presented the following nominees for 3 vacancies to serve 2014-2017.

Milo L. Gibbs, Jr. has had a longtime love for the Town of Bath. It was the home of his father and grandparents. His grandfather operated the Swindell's Cash Store for many years, and his grandmother operated a furniture store. He helped both of them in the stores, and during this time came to appreciate the Town of Bath and its rich history for both our state and country. He would like to serve on the Foundation Board of Directors to help in some small way to preserve the history of Bath while moving it forward in promoting it to our fellow citizens. He feels the primary purpose of the Foundation is to preserve the integrity of its rich history, while at the same time promoting the current town with projects for improvements that both preserve and promote the Town of Bath. He has served on other non-profits boards in various capacities including being a founding board member of the Historic Bath Foundation. He has served as President for the following: United Way of Wilson County, Wilson Rotary Club, The Salvation Army (Wilson Chapter), The American Cancer Society (Wilson Chapter), Barton College Friends of the Library, Friends of the Wilson County Public Library, The North Carolina Baseball Museum, Wilson Arts Council, American Red Cross (Wilson Chapter), Housing Authority of the City of Wilson, Executive Committee of the East Carolina Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He has a special interest in creating a common bond within groups by being a good listener and incorporating everyone's different experiences, perspectives, and ideas. He is also interested in sharing his public relations, advertising, and strategic planning expertise.

Patricia Samford is interested in serving on the Foundation Board of Directors because after having been the manager of Historic Bath State Historic Site for four years, she grew to love the town and its residents. She feels the primary purpose of the Foundation is to promote Bath as the first incorporated town in North Carolina while preserving the town's historical character and integrity. She has served on other non-profit boards in various capacities including current role as Vice president of St. Mary's River Watershed Association, member of Orange County Historic Preservation Commission, and member of the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology. Tricia would like to share her knowledge of historic preservation, museum administration, and archaeology for the betterment of Historic Bath. She has experience in planning fund

raising events, grant writing, group facilitation, legal considerations, preservation philosophies, advertising and strategic planning.

Walter E. Williams is pleased to be a nominee for the Board of Directors. He values his Eastern NC roots and has painstakingly remodeled his family's old home place in Winterville which includes two houses, his mother's wash house, the smoke house, chicken house, corn and potato barns and two tobacco barns. He earned his BS and MA degrees in Administration from East Carolina University, to whom he has remained an ardent booster and supporter since graduating in 1955. His varied contributions have earned him multiple honors, including a basketball area, strength and conditioning center and the baseball stadium jungle that bear his namesake along with several awards for serving the community as an "Outstanding Alumni". Mr. Williams spent the early portion of his career with Taylor Oil CO. in Winston-Salem, N.C. where he was employed for 29 years before founding Trade Oil Company in 1984. He still serves as the President of Trade Oil Co. and the Vice President of WilcoHess. As part of an ongoing commitment to his community, he has served or currently serves on the board of directors for the ECU Educational Foundation, PCC, the Salvation Army Advisory Board and the Immanuel Baptist Board of Deacons, as well as numerous others. He has recently been appointed to the Historic Bath Commission. He is a successful entrepreneur and longtime leader and will bring both guidance and insight to the board.

Surry called for additional names from the floor. None offered. Surry asked for further discussion. None offered. Gene motioned to accept nominees as presented. Second by Jim Clement. No further discussion. None opposed.

Surry asked for additional new business. No further business was offered and Surry adjourned the meeting with notice of the quarterly board meeting immediately following this meeting.

Submitted

Karen Sayer
Secretary