**Historic Bath Foundation, Inc.**

**Quarterly Meeting Minutes**

**January 18, 2014 Bath Town Hall**

**3pm**

Chairman Surry Everett welcomed everyone. Quorum was determined. Board members present: Surry, Gene, Karen, Mariann, Betsy, Milo, Tricia. Absent: Walter, Jim. Ex-officio present: Leigh, Sandra, Peggy, Jimmy. Minutes from the September 27, 2013 meeting reviewed and accepted with no changes. None opposed.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Mariann reported at December 31, 2013 unrestricted assets $96,998.30 compared to $101,554.13 at 12/31/2012. During 2013 the total cash balance for HBF has decreased by $9,168.54 bringing the cash balance to $221,675.09. General contributions were $21,115, fundraiser $1,700, sponsorship $1,500 and investment income $92.70. Membership expenses include stock items for several years. Museum $106,850.77, DCR for the museum $15,625.02. Investments: $50,239.06, Southern Bank CD. Surry asked for questions. Mariann shared that outstanding debts include $5000 for the architectural guidelines, $2201 for tricentennial, and $3250 for the Noe house. Karen inquired if we could combine the two museum line items into one line item and Tricia shared that the funds belong to HBF not DCR and they should be combined. They were funds donated during the Tricentennial. None opposed. Mariann shared that The Margaret funds have been dispersed proportionally as agreed upon by email but she has not heard from Mr. Edwards and he has not cashed his check. This is a separate bank account and I would like to close it out. I will send him a letter and let him know he has 90 days to cash the check. Surry asked if Treasurer Report was approved without objection. No objections.

**Reports of Officers**

**President:** Surry reviewed that the BHSP cover letter which was approved by the board via email had been sent which indicated our willingness to provide funds for the gallery completion under the firm understanding that HBF can take ownership of the NW wing within the designated time agreed upon. We are still awaiting a response from them.

**Vice President:** none

**Secretary:** Karen mailed the remaining two awards from last year to Dr. Duckett and Edwina Shaw. Mariann said that she received a letter in the mail from Dr. Duckett about receiving the award. Karen sent letters to the McNair’s regarding their donation in honor of Gene and to Elaine Noe regarding lapse of small grant funds of $3250.

**Reports of Committees**

**Small Grants:** Tricia said she along with the assistance of Leigh will announce the small grants application deadline. Surry will appoint a committee.

**Award Ceremony:** Surry shared thatMariann has worked very hard in organizing the dual event this year. In addition, she secured BB&T Wealth Management as our sponsor and nearly 100% of the proceeds will come back to us. Mariann shared that 98 tickets had been sold.

**Museum:** Gene shared that we were delayed by Will Mayo in obtaining the draft legal agreement between HBF/BHSP. As Surry mentioned, it has been sent for consideration. In the meantime, Ken Freidlien asked if things fell through with BHSP would HBF consider utilizing Swindell’s Store for the museum. The museum committee feels we should give this consideration whether for rent or purchase.

**Finance/Fundraising:** see Awards Ceremony/Reverse Raffle.

**Historic Research/Curriculum:** Karen explained that she, Betsy, and Leigh are on the committee and that it has been put on the back burner.

**Historic Research/Inventory:** Jimmy shared that the town is not in favor of adhering to the Secretary of Interior Guidelines. Surry shared that we should amend the offer for funding to take into account that the guidelines we pay for should be legitimate preservation guidelines. Tricia shared that some portions of the Secretary of Interior Guidelines can be stringent. She proposes that before we agree to funding that John Wood, from the SHPO Greenville office, approve the guidelines. None opposed.

**Membership:** Karen shared that Mariann asked Tina Allen to take on membership duties and Karen met with her and explained duties. She will be the primary contact for membership responsibilities. She and Gene met and discussed some ideas. Milo will be working with her regarding annual proxy returns for our annual meeting. She has been given all data and contact information in order to perform the duties. Gene reminded everyone to share with him ten people who are not members and he will personally write letters to them.

**Report of Ex-officio Directors**

**Mayor of Bath:** Jimmy shared that the sewer system has been held up for 30-45 days related to reimbursement issues. Family Dollar is open and they were good to work with and changed the usual exterior features to be more in keeping with Bath. We intend to get back on the architectural guidelines process and gymnasium renovation. Jimmy read a Town resolution presented to Karen for her contribution to the Town and the Historic District.

**Manager Historic Bath State Historic Site:** Leigh shared that the Ghost Walk was a great success and highly attended compared to the Christmas Open House event. She mentioned the June QAR exhibit arriving on June 13th and with tearfulness expressed that a job listing had been posted.

**Chairman Historic Bath Commission:** Peggy shared that John Wood made a presentation at the HBC meeting which indicated that the Willson properties make up 40% of the contributing commercial buildings. HBC voted to submit a letter of support to HBF for your efforts to save the structures. Penny Sermons is chairperson of the QAR committee. Another committee will be formed for “First Port” activities during 2015-16 and a member of HBF board is invited to participate.

**Bath High School Preservation President:** Sandra shared that BHSP has been overwhelmed with finishing the library. They met in January and plan to discuss HBF agreement in February. Sandra reviewed the timeline of correspondence between the two organizations. Surry queried Sandra about BHSP creating a condominium association. His concern and question was relative to possible dissolution of such an organization and what would become of HBF’s investment. Surry thanked Sandra for the consideration of clarifying the agreement.

**Old Business:** Karen shared that the Tankard tractor had been moved to Gary Sullivan’s. Surry has been in contact with him. Blanche is still storing the Elizabeth II centerboards.

Gene shared that the NC History and Genealogical section of the library was coming along and that the bookcases have arrived. The table and chairs are expected next week. A total of 600 books have been secured and there may be an additional collection located in Washington to be moved to the Bath library. Gene explained that the Brown and Bath libraries are the only two in the county where extensive genealogy research can be done. Milo said the library is very nice and thanked Gene for his generosity in donating all the rare and relevant books.

**New Business**

Mariann inquired whether a marker could be placed at the Styron cemetery at Catnip Point. Tricia will research it. She shared that a road marker may not be appropriate but some sort of similar marker could be erected to establish the historical importance.

Surry asked for additional new business. No further business was offered and Surry adjourned the meeting.

Submitted

Karen Sayer

Secretary