

Historic Bath Foundation, Inc.
Quarterly BOD Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2017 3pm

Chairman Surry Everett welcomed everyone. A quorum was determined. Board members present: Surry, Gene, Karen, Milo, Tricia, Jimmy, Jerry. Absent: Betsy, Claude. A motion was received from Gene to accept the September quarterly and December special called meeting minutes as presented. Second by Jimmy. None opposed.

President/Treasurer's Report: Surry reported that we have submitted information to WIMCO and Stocks and Taylor to provide a bid for the museum according to specifications provided by the state. And we are waiting for formal bids to come in for window restoration from Tom K Travis and David Hoggard. Surry reported on behalf of Claude the following: Current Cash \$331,639.13 with \$304,625.93 being restricted for the museum. Assets: \$76,354.18 - park property. Museum expenses this quarter are \$182,565.09. Reports distributed and Surry indicated all current reports can be found on the website. He asked for discussion. Report accepted by the full board with no further discussion.

Reports of Officers

Vice President: see museum and park committee reports.

Secretary: We received proof of insurance for Stocks and Taylor, email approvals received: preparing, accepting and paying Singleton to complete 2016 Form 990, payment to Stocks and Taylor for stabilization payments, move all insurance policies to Towne/Clement Insurance in Greenville, proceed with obtaining window restoration bids, seek bids for the museum based on state requirement, move forward with all recommendations for the park per CAMA and DOT recommendations. Karen inquired about Garden Classics grading the museum lot where the dumpsters had been and mowing the lot without trimming. He will submit invoicing along with the park mowing invoice. No objections to Garden Classics maintaining museum lot. Karen inquired and Milo agreed to ensure that all insurance policies are current.

Reports of Committees

Small grants: none

Museum: Gene shared the museum bid will be in two different phases. Phase II will be the 2nd floor which will need a separate heating/air, skeletal framing, and an elevator. This will give the state flexibility for storage and use. They have agreed to provide all storage needs from their \$200,000 investment to the project. We may seek funding from Otis Elevator or the Christopher Reeves Foundation for the elevator. The state agreed to change their 5-year lease to a 10-year lease and has placed staff in charge of organizing the permanent Bath exhibit which will be located on the Flagpole side. It will open Spring 2020. It will be a rotating exhibit but we will always have one the Blackbeard cannons.

Park: Gene explained the DOT hold up on the entrance came about when trying to negotiate a shared entrance with Blackbeard's Slices and Ices. DOT received approval from them twice and both times it was rescinded by Logelfo. DOT/Gene Pittman said it was a difficult negotiation and that ultimately, we will not be sharing an entrance. He indicated we would not be required to do sidewalks as initially discussed since we have been delayed nearly a year. Tomorrow we are meeting with Toby Tetterton and Tom Moss to review placement of piers and rip rap. After meeting with CAMA again and on site, they have agreed that we do not need to raise the piers 36" as they originally indicated.

Award Ceremony/Fund raising: Gene shared that he and Betsy are completing grant applications from Cannon, Covington, and Havens. Surry indicated he completed a grant from Wells Fargo. Jerry is working with the county requirements for possible funding. Jerry indicated

there may be funds through the Fletcher Foundation and funding from PCS may still be a possibility. Jerry inquired about Minges and Gene said someone who knows Connie Bond well should inquire with her about the possibility. The museum goal is to phase into construction by July.

Historic Research/Curriculum/walking tour brochure: on hold

Report of Ex-Officio Directors

Mayor of Bath: absent

Chairman Historic Bath Commission: Penny shared the new assistant director, Interpreter III, Erica Smith has been hired. The new director is expected to be hired in September. Two trees on state property at Bonner Point will need to come down according to the tree inventory. There will be a WWI exhibit May 1-June 5th and our next HBC meeting is scheduled for July 14th. She asked for an appointee from HBF for the 2018 activity planning. Jerry volunteered. She inquired if funding could be received through the foundation and a motion was made by Jerry to accept funding for the 2018 activity plans as long as no more goes out than comes in and that the foundation would not accept any liability. Motion second by Jimmy. None opposed. Surry said he will work with Claude to organize the flow of funds and tax notification, etc. Gene said with planning the events we should well in advance invite the Governor to the Museum opening.

Manager Historic Bath State Historic Site: absent

Bath High School Preservation President: Ruth shared the dedication to Pirate Hall was a success and about 100 people attended included Gerri Lassiter from Grady White Boats. Next, we will start on the catering kitchen by installing plumbing, sinks, and termite treatment. The oyster roast in February was well attended.

Old Business:

Karen asked Tricia about the Port Bath sign and when it would be installed. She thought a fall event could be coordinated. Karen inquired with Ruth about the chimney caps. BHSP still has them in safe keeping and they do owe us a refund. Karen asked Jim if he could follow through on burying the cable at the Lawson's Walk since we have already paid Reds cable for it. He said he would take on that project. Karen reminded that we have two potential historic property projects pending: the Godley house on Possum Hill Road and the South Main Street house owned by the Nelsons. Gene and Surry said that the Godley residence had been broken into by one of the workers who stabilized the historic home for us. Gene and Surry had a visit with the Vernon and Brenda to make certain we were not going to be implicated or responsible for any untoward activity. And it seemed they would not pursue anything against HBF.

Karen shared a phone recording from Len Willison's mother who was very moved by the tribute to Len for his contribution to saving the Marsh Stores. Tribute read by Gene at the dedication: We are gathered here to remember and honor Len Willison. Without Len, the stores to the south of us would not have been saved. He bought them and cared for them. Much of his life centered around them. He recognized that without them Bath's appearance would be sharply different. These stores although they have been long used as living space – help give Bath the appearance of a town- which was its long heritage, rather than just a bedroom community. Len thought this appearance, this ambiance was important. So, did the Historic Bath Foundation, which was why it bought them, stabilized them and sold them to loving owners, who are giving them new life and ensuring they will endure for many, many more years. Len played a key role in acquiring and maintaining the stores. But he was much more. He was a familiar figure in Bath, close to his friends, and always caring for the Town he settled in. So, today we honor and salute him with this marker and express our gratitude. Thank you, Len.

Surry asked for new business. He indicated the town asked if we would be interested in contributing to a parking area along Harding Street which would be shared by BHS, the town, and the museum. No action taken. Gene reminded that we need to work on signage and playground equipment for the Park. Surry asked for a volunteer for the nominating committee: Jerry, Gene, and Karen will provide a slate of new board members. Surry commented that the current President and Secretary are rotating off. No further business was offered and Surry adjourned the meeting with notice of the next meeting June 30, 1000 at BHS Pirate Hall.

Submitted,
Karen Sayer, Secretary