

Historic Bath Foundation, Inc.
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
September 25, 2015, 3pm

Chairman Surry Everett welcomed everyone. A quorum was determined. Board members present: Surry, Gene, Karen, Milo, Betsy, Jimmy, Jason. Absent: Tricia. A motion was received from Gene to accept the June quarterly meeting minutes as presented. Second by Milo.

President/Treasurer's Report: Surry reported on behalf of Claude the following: we have received a tax bill from Beaufort County for the park property and we will research if we are exempt as a non-profit, there is an outstanding check of \$46.82 that has not been cashed from the Margaret project. Motion needed to accept clearing this from the books. Motion by Gene/ Second by Milo. Current Cash \$302,629.15 with \$122,475.79 being restricted for the museum. Asset if \$76,354.18 for park property. Liabilities \$2147.82. (Tercentennial check which needs to be cleared and the Margaret check as mentioned above). Surry asked for discussion. Report accepted by the full board with no further discussion.

Reports of Officers

Vice President: Gene explained that \$3500 had been allotted for advertising the Visitor Center open on Sundays and \$2200 had been spent. He doesn't recommend spending any more at this time but is in favor of year round contribution to keep the Visitor center open on Sundays all year. Motion by Gene/Second by Jimmy. Leigh said she would provide an estimate of cost.

Gene mentioned the park project would require possibly up to a \$65000 matching funds from us. Jimmy motioned to provide funds/second by Karen. No further discussion. None opposed.

Secretary: none

Reports of Committees

Museum: Gene explained both groups are working closely to iron out details of the deed and once we had satisfactory deed from BHSP museum planning would begin. Board in full agreement. No further discussion.

Award Ceremony: Karen shared several members expressed that the Awards Ceremony should be separate from a fund raising event and so she recommended there be no raffle at the January Awards Ceremony. The following were recommended for receiving awards: The Bath Garden Club for beautification of Bath, Debra Torrence and Clay Johnson for restoration of a historic structure and Mariann McQueen for public service. We would again have a caterer and keep the cost of the function close to the budget last year of \$2,500. Motion by Jim/Second by Milo. Discussion: it was agreed since the Bath Garden Club was a group that perhaps a plaque versus a glass award should be provided. None opposed.

Historic Research/Curriculum: on hold

Report of Ex-Officio Directors

Mayor of Bath: absent

Chairman Historic Bath Commission: First Port: Peggy explained that the First Port Committee had sent a memo to the town of the calendar of events which they had comprised and shared that the committee had already prompted beautification for the event with banners which were partially funded by HBF. The committee was asking the mayor to formulate a steering committee to include HBC, HBF and other interested parties in order to plan the events throughout the year. We are waiting to hear from the mayor.

Manager Historic Bath State Historic Site: Leigh shared that DCR and Department of Natural Resources have merged and it will take a while to merge the budgets. She mentioned the site being involved with a coordinated national program with the Smithsonian and reminded everyone that the Lawson Trek would conclude in Bath and encouraged everyone to attend. In addition, there was programming in October which included Bath Town after Dark Ghost Tour.

Bath High School Preservation President: Ruth shared that they would begin construction on the remaining area of the gallery and had let a contract to Stocks and Taylor. The Oyster roast is planned for Feb 27th. There will be no 5K raise this year.

Old Business: Gene shared that the Craven Street cemetery fence would be delivered soon and Slade Landscaping will install it with a cost of at least \$800 under budget. David Johnston was arranging for contractors to assess the Godley house for stabilization for the cost of \$3,500 originally approved. Jason said the Styron marker had been received and he will give notice of the event. Karen shared she thought we should go ahead and place the marker for Len Willson at Harding's landing as originally planned even though there was slight disapproval from Debra and Clay about having it there. Leigh said she is agreeable to have it there. Surry said he didn't want to offend anyone. Sandra Harrison, members from the audience, agreed that it was the right thing to acknowledge Len's contribution in this way. The full board was unanimous in having the granite marker placed there. Karen said she would try to get up with the family. Tricia is still working on the Port marker for the Park. The senior center is 90 days out from a decision. The tree project has successfully planted 20 live oaks in town.

Surry asked for additional new business. No further business was offered and Surry adjourned the meeting with notice of the next meeting being January 30th 3pm with Awards Ceremony at 5pm – Swindell's.

Submitted,

Karen Sayer
Secretary