

Alexandria Historical Society Board Meeting

June 13, 2017

Alexandria Black History Museum

Previously Announced Absences: Jim, Julia

Caroline missed due to a school emergency

Call to Order: Debbie Ackerman at 6:30pm

Jackie arrived late, Audrey left early

Approval of Board Minutes: May Minutes: Steve made the motion to approve the May minutes. They were seconded by Krystyn.

Introduction of Board Members-Debbie Ackerman had members go around the table and introduce themselves and state their responsibilities on the Board, especially as this was the first meeting for Kristyn Moon.

Job Responsibilities-Although there was not time to discuss this, it appears to have been solved. See HARC under Old Business.

Board Member Reports

Vice-President: Audrey Davis began our meeting, as she had to leave early. June's speaker, Adrienne Washington, had emergency surgery and there was concern if she would be recovered in time for the lecture. Audrey has spoken with her and Adrienne will be teaching on the 26th, so the lecture on the 28th is fine.

Adrienne has come up with a title for the press, "We've Come This Far by Faith," which Audrey forwarded to Jim and Jackie for publicity and newsletter. All the Board Members would like to see this lecture videotaped, if the speaker gives permission.

Dan Lee, the City Historian and September speaker, is changing his project, so needs another week to submit his title and information. Audrey would like to see Dan possibly take a more active role with the lectures and the Society, perhaps once a year. This allows the community to be aware that there is a City Historian.

Mount Vernon Day Trip-Dates for this this will either be September 30th or November 4th from 10am to 4pm. A box lunch will be served and members will be able to reserve early and get a discount before it is open to the general public. Beginning at Mount Vernon, everyone will see the slavery exhibit, "Bound Lives Together," then the archaeologist will take everyone on a tour through the slave burial grounds. Bordering a bus, the group will go to the Gum Springs Historical Society, the Alexandria Contraband Cemetery, then back to Mount Vernon.

Program Committee-Audrey, Jackie, Mark, Krystyn, Catherine, and Debbie. This committee will meet during the summer for ideas outside of lectures, as well as looking at our current schedule. Topics

to consider will be Do we want a June meeting and lecture so close to July 4th holiday when people may be on vacation? Do we want a February lecture?

Treasurer: Tal Day handed out three sheets which gave the Board background on the different types of funds we have. Patrick would like the Board to review this for the September meeting and then Tal will discuss. In theory, we have no annual budget, but we could. We are in a better place now, but exceeded our budget for the awards ceremony.

Tal mentioned that the Board had \$3,000 in Paypal to pay for the fall lectures. Savings is doing alright, but could change when the *Chronicles* start up. General Savings is close to \$10,000 and when a few donations have come in, Tal directed to General Savings.

New Business:

Upcoming Year: Patrick Ladden reiterated the guiding ideas from the Spring Retreat, making sure this is where the Board would like to go and confirm we are on tract. He handed out information that included next year's meetings and lectures. He verified The *Chronicle* is moving forward and that the Program Committee will meet during the summer. Patrick wants to make certain we are keeping to what we voted on at the Spring Retreat-one 18th, 19th, and 20th Century lecture per season, to move away from books and make the lectures more cultural. Patrick is also interested in outreaching to other organizations. Rather than reinventing the wheel, talk about city anniversaries with other agencies. Audrey mentioned that the City Collaborations Committee is being reinstated and Patrick feels this is a positive for the Board.

Old Business:

Book Project: Tal Day has not heard from anyone and stated that we need to decide what the distinctive material should be and make it appropriate to sell in the OHA gift shops, as well as Mount Vernon, Carlyle, and Lee-Fendall. The principle material is online, but we would have a wider audience if in book form.

Committee Reports:

Membership-217 members; questioned if anyone knew Marilyn Burke from Michigan as she had not been active since 2014. Jackie said she would check her records to ascertain if Burke had received the membership as a gift. Renewal letters were being sent out June 14th. Mark has been unable to find the square. Board will purchase another.

The Chronicle-Ginny Hammil has received a 56-page article about Alexandria sewage. She is considering dividing it into 2 articles, however it is not in Microsoft word style yet. Ginny wondered what our relationship with Alexandria Renew was. Can we get copyright permission or publishing rights before contacting the author? Don't know when it will be finished, but Tal is thinking the first *Chronicle* will be finished November and the second in January or February to have something to read in between lectures. Tal put forward a Board motion to allow Ginny Microsoft Support. It is \$100 a year. Patrick motioned and Debbie seconded. It was approved. It will come out of the *Chronicle* fund.

Newsletter/Flyer-Jackie Cohan stated that the newsletter will go out June 14th. It will include a reminder to renew and the fall lectures.

Website-Tal noted that there is a broken link under Publications for the Chronicle. Debbie will ask Caroline to please look at this.

Publicity-

Correspondence-Patrick Ladden will do this job until the end of June. Patrick had over a dozen inquiries this month. Steve Kimbel will take over in July. Steve was having trouble with the email but it will clear up soon. In the coming year, Steve will be telling the Board of cross fertilization of tours and events in town, to reiterate the working with other organizations.

Alexandria Archaeological Commission-Katy Cannady told the Board that the ship will be moved to Texas A & M. There will be a Bon Voyage Party on Thursday, June 15 from 3-5pm on 116 S. Quaker Lane.

HARC-Krystyn will be accepting the AHS representative on HARC. Tal moved to approve of this. Patrick seconded. All were in favor.

Hospitality-Mark and Debbie have hospitality for the June lecture.

Adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Next meeting-September 12, 2017