

## **Abita Springs Trailhead Museum**

Board Meeting Minutes for January 29, 2020

Recorded by Martha Gruning

Guests: Paul Brawley

Members Present: Stewart Eastman, Barb Borries, GERALYN Lips, Courtney Blich, Carolyn Boudreaux, Steve Davis, , George Long, Susan Fischer, Martha Gruning, Ron Blich, Marian Roper and Susan Foster.

Absent with notice: Peggy Scimemi, Annie Weaver

Absent without notice: Bryan Gowland

Called to order at 5:00

### **Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from December 17, 2019 were accepted as written after a motion by Barb and a second by Carolyn.

### **Financial Report**

Martha provided an overview of the financial statements. The cash balance in the bank account as of December 31 was \$28,756.60. The December income was \$383, which included Cajun Dance income and Museum Donations. The expenses were \$498.20, and were related to Cajun Dance expenses [\$218], the Elise Roome Retrospective expenses [\$74.89] and museum operating expenses [\$205.31]. The year end figures are as follows:

### **Old Business**

#### **Update Program Suggestions**

New Louisiana Poet Laureate – No update.

French Poet Laureate - Stewart reported that the Louisiana French Poet Laureate is Kirby Jambon. He will contact him to see if he might be willing to do a reading at the museum.

Summer Camp - We need to find someone to help Peggy with the camp. George will contact Mr. Schwartz as a possible teacher for the camp.

Security/Sound System – The old system has been removed and the new system installed by Kerry Brandon. An phone app is available for controlling the system. Martha, George and Katy Bridges have installed the app on their cell phones. Fiber optics cable will connect the museum, the sign, the amphitheater and Town Hall. Currently eight high definition cameras are installed. An additional eight will be installed later. There is a possibility of a broadcast quality camera in the shelter in front of the stage. Video and audio will be available on the second floor of the Pavilion for music events and movie nights.

Mug/Ornament Sales – We have not sold many mugs or ornaments at the Farmer's Market community table but will continue to make them available.

Recording Secretary – No one has volunteered to take the board position of recording secretary.

## **New Business**

### **Board Members**

George has rescinded his resignation from the board. He will remain as Vice-President.

### **2020 Ethics Certificate**

All board members must complete the required ethics training and must sign the sheet required by the Town

### **February Board Meeting**

Mardi Gras falls on the last Tuesday of the month; therefore the board will meet on March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm instead February 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Committee Reports**

Push Mow – George has one judge confirmed, Carolyn Boudreaux. He will ask Anthony Essaied and John Snell to act as judges. George and Martha will meet with the Town to confirm detail on checklist. We will use last year's signs and make new ones for next year. We need a photographer. The band is Big Al and the Heavyweights. They will start playing one hour before the parade and one to one and a half hours after the parade ends. Currently there are 22-23 entries and approximately \$1,000 in entry fees.

Busker Fest – The rain date is April 5<sup>th</sup>. The lineup is: Esther Rose – Americana, the Bad Penny Pleasuremakers – Trad. Jazz, James McClaskey and the Rhythm Band, the Sam Doores Band – Americana, and Tuba Skinny. We will need two checks – one for Kent Birkle for sound and a second for Jude LeBlanc for equipment. Geralyn is overseeing the food vendors. The price for vendors near the stage area was \$130 last year. Courtney moved to increase it to \$150. Barb seconded. Marian will check with Katy on what portion of the Farmer's Market vendor will go to the Museum.

Busker Photography Show – Details of the show will be confirmed.

Garage Sale – Martha reported that 29 spots have been reserved and paid for. An additional 24 for applications have been received but no payment has been made for these. The total collected to date in vendor fees is \$1,640.

En Plein Air - 25 Artists participated last year. The EPA committee will decide whether to have more or fewer this year. The Museum will be closed on April 24, the day of the evening opening reception. The participating artists will choose the postcard to be used for publicity. George submitted a grant proposal to Cleco to act as an underwriter for the show, requesting \$3,000. We will not have live music.

Farmer's Market – [I did not have notes on this. Did I miss something?]

Facilities Management – New pipe will carry feeds for connectivity from the Museum/Amphitheater/sign. There will be an exterior outlet for television hookup.

Preservation Committee – no report.

Docents – We still have shifts not filled during which the museum is closed.

By-Laws – Martha has made no progress on the By-Laws.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:14.**

**Next Meeting Wednesday, March 4, 5:00PM**