

## **Abita Springs Trailhead Museum**

Board Meeting Minutes for April 30, 2019

Recorded by Gail Ledet

Members Present: Martha Gruning, George Long, Stewart Eastman, Courtney Blitch, Barb Borries, Susan Fischer, Bryan Gowland, Carolyn Boudreaux, Marian Roper, Jessica Lotspeich, Peggy Scimemi, Ron Blitch, Steve Davis and Gail Ledet

Absent with notice: Geralyn Lips and Kristen Wilkinson

Absent without notice: Catherine Fraser

Called to order at 5:00

### **Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from March 29, 2019 minutes were accepted with changes after a motion by Barb.

### **Point of Order by George - Fall Fest - Moved up from New Business in Agenda**

Anthony Essaid addressed the ASTM Board regarding the upcoming Fall Fest, scheduled for November 2. Anthony explained he wanted to revive the Fall Fest, with an event that would raise funds for the Community. A 501c is being created, which will begin with Board Members David Blossman, Anthony Essaid and Karen Moses. Fall Fest Board Members include Barb Borries, Evette Randolph and Fred (last name unclear). Sponsorships are now being sold. Allocations of profits to community projects will be decided via committee.

Museum responsibilities were discussed:

- 1) Museum open with docents
- 2) Trailhead Stage
- 3) Main Stage in Park
- 4) Anthony would utilize Town liability insurance

There are plans for a bike corral. Local vendors and restaurants will be used. There is an application and screening process in place for Arts and Crafts vendors.

George expressed dismay that the Museum wasn't notified earlier in the process. It was noted that Barb is serving on both Boards.

Construction fencing will limit access and wristbands will be provided. Tickets prices are Early bird for \$15, \$20, day of event for \$25 and VIP for \$65. Construction fencing will be used to limit access, and wristbands will be required for access.

They are accepting applications for volunteers and community service hours.

John Preble is helping out with artists and crafts people. George also has a list he can share.

Ron had three suggestions:

- 1) Road closures

- 2) ASTM liaison – Barb
- 3) Specify projects or goals

It was noted that there is no rain date/refund on tickets for the event, as bills will still be due.

The Articles for the 501c have been filed with the Secretary of State, and are waiting for approval.

Live streaming is possible. It was noted that are security system does not provide sound.

Anthony provided Board Members with a packet, which will be included with these minutes.

### **Financial Report**

While Niki wasn't present for the meeting, a report was provided by Martha. 16 En Plein Air paintings were sold for a net profit of \$2500. The Busker Festival also performed well financially. Martha will plug the budget with actual expenses.

### **Old Business**

#### **Bike Racks**

The two bike racks were ordered. Delivery is expected 2 – 3 weeks from yesterday, with deliveries being done on week days. The weight was verified via email.

#### **Outdoor Garbage Cans for Museum**

Martha reported there was a reversal of plans. Information provided Leanne stated the cans were \$325, with free shipping. This was not correct. Shipping costs are \$130. With this situation, Leanne did not order the cans. The actual price is \$499 per can, with free shipping. A motion made by Susan, to order the cans at the new costs, with a second by Barb. The motion passed.

#### **En Plein Air Wrap Up**

Ron reported the exhibit and reception were both successes. The sales made through Sunday brought our gross total somewhere between 8 and 9K. It was noted that not all attendees to the reception actually went into the Museum. That triggered a conversation as to whether we should charge to attend the reception. After discussion, it was thought we would not pursue a charge. It was also noted that the Town's elected representatives should be encouraged to attend this event. John Preble suggested high end jewelry could also be presented and sold at this exhibit. . It was determined that a jewelry show could be held in the Fall as a separate event.

#### **Volunteer Party Wrap Up**

The event was good, and the food was adequate. Perhaps a lighter food are would be better. 55 people were in attendance.

### **Mural between Pub and Museum**

Nothing new to report. The current consensus is to get a professional artist, or perhaps the group of artists that painted the benches. **Action Item 1** – George will ask the bench artists to provide a proposal and design.

### **Art Camp -**

One person, from Hammond responded to the request for an Art Teacher. This person is free in June, and Peggy asked that someone check with the town on availability for June. **Action Item 2** – George will check on the Town Hall's availability. Time required is from 8am – 1PM, Monday through Friday. Peggy has volunteers to do a 1 week Art Camp. Perhaps, an adult Art Class could be scheduled at night. Peggy made a motion to pay the Art Instructor \$300 for a 1 week class, and to charge students \$80 each to attend. Other volunteers, up to 2, would be compensated at \$250. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was made by Marian, and the motion passed. Insurance is covered by the Town.

### **New Business**

**Fall Fest** as noted above.

### **Bicycle Festival**

Stewart had nothing to report. It was noted by Martha, that John Preble is to take care of the port-a-let. **Action Item 3**– Martha will contact John about the port-a-let. It was also stated there are no formal food vendors at this event.

### **Skip June Meeting**

As we are not involved with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, it was agreed we would skip the June ASTM meeting.

### **Elise Roome Art Retrospective**

Discuss in July.

### **Committees Reports**

Docent Recruiting – No report

Publicity – Gail asked who is doing publicity, as there seems to be a duplication of efforts.

**Action Item 4** - George will clarify.

Facilities –No Report

Community Organization (Museum Usage)

Development – No Report

By-Laws – No Report

Town Hall Liaison – No Report

Programming – No Report

**On Hold**

Archive Historic Documents/Photos – Geralyn reported while on a tour of the St. Tammany Archives, information on Abita Springs is available. Ron added there are photos of Abita Springs available on EBay. Decisions have to be made on monies, storage and displays, among others.

**Long Range Planning**

A special meeting is to be held at a later date to discuss/determine a big picture project.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:15.**

**Next Meeting Tuesday, May 28, 2019**