

## **Abita Springs Trailhead Museum**

Board Meeting Minutes for July 30, 2019

Recorded by Gail Ledet

Members Present: George Long, Stewart Eastman, Courtney Blitch, Barb Borries, Susan Fischer, Carolyn Boudreaux, Steve Davis, GERALYN LIPS, Peggy Scimemi, Marian Roper, Jessica Lotspeich and Gail Ledet

Absent with notice: Martha Gruning, and Ron Blitch

Absent without notice: Kristen Wilkenson and Bryan Gowland

Called to order at 5:00

### **Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from May 28, 2019 were accepted with changes from George after a motion by Marian, and a second by GERALYN.

### **Financial Report**

Niki resigned from TOAS, and her replacement begins work next Thursday. With that said, we do not have a Financial Report. In the interim, a bank balance should be available. As Treasurer, Martha presented a report this past April. We've been asked by the Town to explain ASTM expenditures going forward. We were asked to report on two expenditures; \$300(caterer – En Plein Air) and \$500 (event planner – Volunteer Party). A discussion followed regarding Barb coordinating food efforts for next En Plein Air.

### **Old Business**

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

The two garbage cans have been installed.

#### **Art Camp**

Peggy has been in communication with Mr. Hume of Hammond, regarding Art Camp for next year. She would like to get started with the planning early next year. Mr. Hume and Peggy discussed many varied ideas, which will be brought to our September meeting. Pricing for Mr. Hume is anticipated to be \$300. As we charge participating students, it is thought ASTM would make a profit in the \$800 - \$900 range. Peggy will work on scheduling with Joe Dillon (TOAS Event Coordinator), and cost with the Mayor.

The Art Class could possibly spin-off into other classes, including Adult Pottery. If successful. We could possibly schedule 2 – 3 camps per summer, depending on Town Hall availability. Parents have indicated the July timeframe is preferred. The camps may be coordinated with the Middle School camp dates.

Mr. Hume's website is [humeartstudio.com](http://humeartstudio.com).

## **Docent Schedule**

Martha has asked that Board Members continue to check the Docent Schedule, and volunteer if available.

## **New Business**

### **Archive/Tour Dates**

Geralyn passed around a list for interested Board Members and preferred times to take a tour of our Parish Archival Department. Geralyn has been in contact with Ashley Garner, executive assistant to COC Melissa Henry, and will be contacting Robin Leckbe to schedule a tour in the mid-August timeframe. The tour is approximately 1.5 hours.

Geralyn is also interested in starting an ASTM committee to proceed with the Museum's Archival effort. She indicated possible members would be Geralyn as Chair, Mary Davis, Loretta O'Reilly and Dr. Sandy Quinn. The committee would of course be open to any ASTM Board members. Carolyn suggested Lynette Soule be contacted, as she could provide Abita information. Board focus would be expenditures, compilation of what is currently available, conducting and recording interviews, Town records, Police records, funding and logistics, to name a few. It was mentioned the Town's previous Mayors still available should be contacted. They are Greg Lemons, Louis Fitzmorris, Bryan Gowland and Skinny Bridges. George mentioned he has a friend at the State Museum that may be contacted as a resource. John Preble and Ron Blich would also be excellent resources. Peggy suggested older Town residents be contacted.

### **Photography Show – “Bring Your Photos” gathering**

There have been discussions on a Historical Photography Exhibit, perhaps in the fall. George indicated this could be a Kick-Off for the Archival Project. This would be an open discussion/work night. Scanners would be a plus.

### **New Docents**

Two docents shadowed Barbara Jackson, and worked together the following Sunday. They may also know additional prospects. Jennie Larkins has submitted her application. Susan will follow up with Kathy Ford on her application. Both of these ladies are new to Abita.

## **On Hold**

### **Art Retrospective**

The show will now include four artists, Elise Roome, Ray Buuck, Robert Rucker and Michael Curtis. Mary Davis will discuss this with us at a future meeting, and is looking for a show possibly in the January/February timeframe. It was noted Mardi Gras is February 25, and Push Mow is 10 days prior.

## **Committees Reports**

Docent Recruiting – Discussed above.

Facilities –George needs to coordinate with Cleco on the camera installation on the Totem. Security System is in process with the Town. George is getting estimates to replace the decking and railings.

Community Organization (Museum Usage) – No Report

Development – No Report

Publicity – No Report

By-Laws – No Report

Town Hall Liaison – No Report

Programming – No Report

## **Additional Discussions**

### **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

George will be sending out an email shortly scheduling Committee Meetings for Push Mow and Busker Festivals. Marian asked if we will be having actual Buskers at this year's festival.

### **Reporting Issues to Town**

Place a public work order on the TOAS website. It is under the I Want To drop down menu. You are able to attach docs/photos.

### **Cajun Dance Issues**

Gail reported that the Cajun Dance Board is concerned about changes with pricing/cleaning/setup being presented by the Town for use of the Town Hall. She brought it up, due to the fact ASTM benefits from the concession sales at the event. It was discussed that perhaps an ASTM Board member could act as a liaison with the Cajun Dance Board.

### **Port-a-let**

Stewart said that port-a-let rentals for events have recently fallen to him. The Painted Car Festival was going to rent a port-a-let function, and the Mayor said to use the Town Hall for restroom needs. The Mayor came and unlocked the Town Hall the day of the Festival. There is no consistency with this requirement.

### **Non Profit Designation for ASTM**

Stewart would like this discussed at a future meeting.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:05.**  
**Next Meeting Tuesday, August 27, 2019**