

Abita Springs Trailhead Museum

Board Meeting Minutes for November 26, 2019

Recorded by Gail Ledet

Members Present: Stewart Eastman, Courtney Blicht, Carolyn Boudreaux, Steve Davis, Peggy Scimemi, Geralyn Lips, Bryan Gowland, Anne Weaver, George Long and Gail Ledet.

Absent with notice: Marian Roper, Ron Blicht, Barb Borries and Marian Roper.

Called to order at 5:05

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from October 29, were accepted as written, after a motion by Carolyn, and a second by Peggy.

Financial Report

Martha provided an overview of the financial statements. The cash balance in the bank account as of November 25 was \$28,117.99. The October income was \$203.68. The revenue for October was \$425.45, and the expenses were \$221.77. The only income was from Cajun dance, and donations. The only expenses were Cajun dance costs, and operational expenses of \$101.60 for the alarm system, and the television. Please let Martha know if you have any questions.

Old Business

Program Suggestion – New Louisiana Poet Laureate

There is no update at the current time. George will follow up later.

Elise Roome Retrospective

Everyone reported this was a wonderful event. Doug Roome sent a letter to the Board, expressing his thoughts on the exhibit. It was discussed that we do a better job of promoting future events. **Action Item 1 – Peggy** – Develop a list of local art teachers, and contact Abbi Art Works;

Busker Photography Exhibit during Festival

Bryan met with Kimberly Hatton-Reid, regarding her having an exhibit of her photography during the Busker Festival. She is wired into the local Busker community, and does a great job with street photography. George showed the Board some examples of her work. Details of the exhibit TBD. If photos are sold during the event, a contract should be developed with details of the artist/museum split. **Action Item 2 – George** to confirm contract requirements. The Board, will discuss, budget and vote on this activity at the next meeting.

Update Summer Art Camp – fee of \$300 for Mr. Hume

This item will be tabled to January. Four ladies worked on this initiative last, at a cost of \$250 per, and the class was limited to 20 students. **Action Item 3 – Peggy** – confirm dates with Town Hall.

Update Quilt Show w/donated quilt

Peggy reported the quilt to be raffled is being hand quilted with gold thread. She said raffle tickets will sell better, if it is promoted. She suggested flyers be printed, and distributed around town. Perhaps, we could display the quilt at the Museum and/or Town Hall for a period before the event. The business, Sew This, on Highway 59, may be able to provide us with additional information regarding this type of exhibit. **Action Item 4** – Peggy will work with Mary to coordinate this event.

New Business

Board Members

Gail is resigning from the Board, effective December 31, 2019. She will still volunteer as able for Museum events and as a docent. Anne Weaver, a former Board Member, has sent in an application to rejoin. This application was provided to the Board. Anne is a Grant Writer for Loyola University, as well as other agencies. She said we may find monies available for future activities, through grants, with advanced planning. The Board voted unanimously for Anne to join, and she will start immediately. **Action Item 5 – Courtney** – Review Board Member requirements, and post openings on website and Town Sign. It was noted this may be a good time to form a relationship with the St. Tammany Art Association.

Fall Fest Update

Barb provided the following update:

The Fall Fest was a definite success. The final figures aren't in yet, so we don't know if there will be funds to distribute to non-profits this year. The Fest, through Anthony Essaied, gave \$1250.00 to both the Elementary and Middle Schools from the proceeds of a raffle held. The winners of the raffle, two winners, received 2 VIP tickets with the perks that went with them. There were approximately 2500 attendees. We've already held a meeting of the core committee and will be planning the 2nd Fest with improvements in mind.

December Meeting

December Meeting date is 12/17, 5:00 PM due to holiday. Stewart noted the town will also have a meeting that night, which will begin at 6:00PM.

Christmas Village Display

Set up will be on 12/4, beginning at 1:00 pm, per Martha. Steve believes the village is being stored at Town Hall.

Stewart brought up an earlier discussion regarding Display Tables, with glass enclosures for placement down the middle of the Museum to be used for various exhibits. Expense and storage are issues for such an initiative.

Committees Reports

Farmers Market – Marian said they are still working on getting quality vendors.

Push Mow Update – Theme is Science Fair Projects Gone Wild. Queen and King are Martha

and her husband David. The Grand Marshall(s), will be Teacher(s) of the Year. The Parade has been moved to Sunday, February 16, beginning at 2:00 PM.

Facilities Management

Sign Replacement – the \$600 PO has been approved, and we are waiting on Dave Kelsey at this point.

Cleaning Service – We are getting info from the Town on the Cleaning Service they currently use.

Preservation Committee

Table for the present time. Anne mentioned there could be grant money available to purchase the required software.

Docents Committee

Please continue to check the schedule for open dates.

On Hold

Curated Art show proposed by Anthony Donado

Meeting adjourned at 6:15.

Next Meeting Tuesday, December 17, 2019, 5:00PM