

Abita Springs Trailhead Museum (ASTM) Board Meeting Minutes Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at the Museum

Minutes digitally recorded and transcribed by Martha Gruning, Vice- President

Members Present: George Long, Calissa Folse, Jimmy Nelson, Stewart Eastman, Felicia Walker, Michelle Milner, Martha Gruning, Ron Blitch (Emeritus)

Absent with notice: Courtney Blitch, Niki Mendow, Geralyn Lips (Emeritus)

Absent without notice: Bryan Gowland (Emeritus)

Visiting: Katie Weaver, Town of Abita Springs Special Events Coordinator

Meeting called to order at 5:07 pm by President George Long

Felicia moved that minutes of the May 2022 meeting be approved. Jimmy seconded the motion, which was approved.

Financial report by Martha Gruning, Vice-president: Account balance \$41,864.26 as of August 26, 2022. Martha will add financial reports provided by the Town to Google Drive. Ron asked if we had received the \$1,500 check from Cleco. Martha said that we had. Ron said he would like to send a "Thank You" package to Cleco when we request their sponsorship for 2023. It will include photographs of the exhibit, info from our Facebook page and other evidence of our publicizing their underwriting of the event.

ACTION ITEM: Martha will post financials to Google Drive.

ACTION ITEM: Ron will create a "Thank You" package for CLECO.

Unfinished Business

Change of meeting day/date: George stated that we can remove the meeting to the third Wednesday of each month. Everyone present stated that this works for them. George will check with the remaining board members before confirming this. He will confirm to the entire board the dates for the remainder of this year and all of next year. George and Courtney will miss the September and October board meetings. Martha will preside over the September meeting. We need a volunteer to chair the October meeting. Calissa offered to preside.

Storytime/Nature Series: Calissa said Karen Wallseen could offer four sessions of an interactive nature series focusing on local nature, bugs, plants, birds and associated food chains. One hour long sessions in the fall outside. With a volunteer she could handle 20 children, otherwise she would have 10. Registration can be offered via Google form. Target group is 6-10 year olds. These would be in the fall or split between fall [2] and spring [2]. The spring sessions could coincide with Earth Day, Saturday, April 22nd. Karen would like to be able to sell her book. Town Hall will have to approve this. Calissa will send a link to the book.

Docent Appreciation Event: Martha would like for the Museum to host a Museum Volunteer Appreciation event. She suggests a potluck at her house. She will provide beverages. Early December before Christmas festivities start would be good. We need input as to weekday or weekend and night or day. Daytime would make it easier for people to find the house. Martha would like to honor the Museum volunteers as a group - docents, board and Cajun Dance. She will ask for suggestions from several long-time volunteers.