

## **Abita Springs Trailhead Museum (ASTM) Board Meeting Minutes Wednesday, November 16 at the Museum**

Members Present: George Long, Courtney Blich, Martha Gruning, Felicia Walker, Stewart Eastman, Calissa Folse, Jimmy Nelson, Geralyn Lips (Emeritus)

Absent with notice: Niki Mendow

- Meeting called to order at 5:01pm by President George Long
  
- Stewart Eastman moved that minutes of the October 2022 meeting be approved. Jimmy Nelson seconded the motion, which was approved.
  
- Financial report by Martha Gruning - Account balance is \$40,316.33 as of November 1, 2022. Expenses included mulch for the garden and maintenance repairs charged to the museum account. ACTION ITEM: Martha will request from Town Hall an invoice for the repairs and clarification from TOAS on whether or not the museum is responsible for these costs.

Cajun Dance net income YTD is \$3,114.94. Martha shared a message from one of the volunteers who regularly work the concessions at the dances. Martha said that if we continue to have volunteers available, it is feasible to continue with it. But if finding volunteers becomes problematic, we should reconsider our participation.

### **Unfinished Business**

- The museum volunteer party will be held December 4 at 4pm at Martha's house. All food and drink will be donated by attendees. The event is not being hosted by TOAS.
  
- Preservation Project - George said TOAS and Rachel Harmeyer have signed a work agreement and she will soon start work with the CatalogIt software.
  
- Francis Broussard events - George set dates with Francis for three presentations: January 15, February 26, and March 26 at 4pm. Topics are to be determined. State Archaeologist Chip McGimsey will be presenting with Francis on one or more of these dates. Discussed whether or not to serve food and drinks at these events. It was decided that audience questions would be solicited beforehand in order to keep the flow of the event moving.
  
- Choctaw Heritage - Stewart said he found a good book about the heritage of the Choctaw in our area. ACTION ITEM: George will schedule a meeting with interested parties at Town Hall in January to explore the format of our participation in Earth Day events on April 22.

## **New Business**

- Classical guitar recital - Kerry Alt has requested that we hold a recital for a couple of his former students at the museum on November 27 at 4pm. George will help with promotion and Martha will act as host for the event.
- Christmas Village - Setup November 28 at 10am by Martha, Stewart, Mary Davis, and Lynnette Soules. ACTION ITEM: Martha will ensure boxes of village parts will be available on time and in good working order.
- Museum technology update - George reported that three speakers inside and four outside of the museum have been replaced by Kerry Brandon. George will meet with him to determine how to setup our new Promethean boards.
- Citizen of the Year - George announced that Darleen Johnson was selected as Citizen of the Year in recognition of her volunteer work around town and in the museum's garden. George asked that you congratulate her when you see her.
- Board Nominations - George reviewed by-laws regarding election of board members which state we may have up to nine members. Courtney shared that all current board members have one more year on their terms. George asked that board members send him any suggested nominations.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm, moved by Martha, seconded by Jimmy.