

# NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORY COMMISSION

## MINUTES

January 13, 2015  
6:00 P.M.  
506 Main Street  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

### Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Jackson, Chairman  
Herman Shirley  
Eartha Dobbins  
Kristal Clark  
Belinda Sykes Burney

### Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director  
Cary Bradburn, Historian

### Commission Members Absent:

Ann Clements  
Jon Beavers

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Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the January 13, 2015 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established. Commissioners Ann Clements and Jon Beavers were unable to attend the meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Ms. Jackson asked if Commissioners had read the minutes the November 10, 2014 meeting. Herman Shirley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Belinda Burney seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote.

Suzanne Jackson showed a PowerPoint presentation of the exhibits held in the History Commission building in 2014.

### **STAFF REPORT:**

Sandra Smith reported on items that have been donated to the History Commission archives since November 2014:

1. Digital images of the Clark family- donated by Teresa Clark
2. Photographs of the Old Mill in the 1930s, VA Hospital Volunteers in the 1960s, Red Cross volunteers, 1950s Boys Club dance recital; Jr. Service League Red Stocking Follies Program- 1966, miscellaneous newspaper clippings- donated by Ruth Huncke Holland
3. Levy Elementary School class photos, grade 4-1955-56, grade 6-1957-58- donated by Alice Fay Williams Brown
4. December 1962 Woman's Day magazine, Jackson Vanilla Wafer Fruit Cake recipe- donated by Becky Ball Witcher
5. Real estate documents for 210 Valley View Dr, color photographs of Opal Wasson and George Wasson, 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Amboy Elementary School, 1961-1969, theater program from

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McRae Elementary 3<sup>rd</sup> grad class production “Tom Thumb Wedding”, late 1950s, photographs of the Heyden House at 101 W. Scenic Drive- donated by Patsy McCain  
6. Model of the North Little Rock Veteran Memorial- donated by Alderman Debi Ross

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT:**

Suzanne Jackson told Commissioners that a tentative schedule of exhibits to be displayed in 506 Main has been set. February’s exhibit will be African-American legislators 1868-1893 and North Little Rock African-American history. A preservation exhibit will go up in the spring. On May 15, the North Little Rock Historic District Commission will host a state-wide training seminar for historic district commissioners at 506 Main. Summer will be exhibits concerning North Little Rock history. September through November there will be an exhibit on Military History on the North Shore. The North Little Rock History Commission will be working in conjunction with the Arkansas History Commission on a World War I exhibit and program. The Christmas exhibit will be installed after Thanksgiving.

Ms. Jackson reported that the 501c3 “Friends of the North Little Rock History Commission” has been established. She said the “Friends” group, Pinnacle Chapter of Questers, and grants are potential sources of funding and support.

**DISCUSSION:**

Kristal Clark has set up a group facebook page for the North Little Rock History Commission. She showed Commissioners the page and talked about how this will be a good alternative way to receive and disperse information.

Belinda Sykes said the date for the North Little Rock Black History Program has been set for Saturday, February 21. The event will be held at First Baptist Church on Main Street and begin at 5:30 p.m. There will be a choir performance, living history program, and the speaker will be Linda Chesterfield. Master of Ceremonies will be Dorothy Williams.

Eartha Dobbins said she will be stepping down as NAACP President. She said she has held the position since 2008 when Lorene Joshua retired. She said Deborah Rhodes will be the new president. Kristal Clark announced Mrs. Joshua passed away earlier in the day.

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After determining there were no additional issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra Taylor Smith, Director