



MINUTES

North Little Rock History Commission meeting February 9, 2021

Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Jackson, Chairman
Ann Clements
Debra Wood
Deeana Montgomery
Belinda Burney

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian

Commission Members Absent:

Kristal Clark

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the February 9, 2021 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. and quorum was established.

Commissioner Kristal Clark had an excused absence. (Note: All Commission members and staff participated in the meeting electronically)

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the last History Commission meeting, held on December 8, 2020. Ann Clements moved to approve the October 2020 minutes as written and the motion was seconded by Deeana Montgomery. The motion was approved by all in voice vote.

Staff Report

Donations since the December 2020 meeting:

1. NLR High School Commencement Program, May 28, 1948; NLR High School Baccalaureate Program, May 23, 1948- Donated by Rebecca McGraw
2. W. F. "Flake" Stanley collection including 10 page petition for incorporation of the Town of Levy, 1917, timeline of Levy; maps of North Little Rock from 1964 and 1980; Miscellaneous newspaper articles concerning historic sites in Arkansas; 1928 *Arkansas Democrat* article from 1928 on the history of Levey and its municipal government; 76 page notebook of fire insurance estimates of North Little Rock in 1926; 280 page ledger book of W. F. Stanley, 1908-23; emails from William L. Norman concerning Flake Stanley; 201 5/7 black and white photographs of properties acquired for the expansion of Camp Pike taken in March 1918- Donated by Vickie Briley, great-great granddaughter of W.F. "Flake" Stanley.
3. 1961 Ridgeroad Junior High School manager's letter jacket; 1961 photograph of Ridgeroad Junior High School; scanned elementary school photos; Ridgeroad Jr. High School Sports Manager's Jacket

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Sandra Smith happily reported that Nila Nelson is working three days a week, helping with the downstairs and working on processing archival collections.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Suzanne Jackson reported Deeana Montgomery has been placing school district photographs in binders so retired teachers and other will be able to help identify them.

Ms. Jackson reported that Jim Lynch has been in touch with the North Little Rock School District registrar concerning obtaining names of the first black students enrolled in North Little Rock High School. He is sending letters on North Little Rock History Commission letterhead to people he has identified through his research and wants to post on facebook pages searching for identification of other students. He will be posting on the S. A. Jones Alumni facebook page as well as neighborhood association pages.

A Request for Qualifications for an Exhibit/Design firm was run in the AR Dem/Gaz. There were 51 firms from all over the country who responded and to whom Sandra Smith sent out further information. Deadline for receipt of the RFQs is February 12. One proposal has already been received.

Fundraising for the permanent exhibit continues. Ms. Jackson said that there has been a meeting with John Owens, NLR Chamber of Commerce, Karen Trevino and Scott Sudduth with the Visitor's Bureau to invite their organizations to assist. Debra Wood suggested contacting the Laman Library for funds as well as John Gaudin and Harold Tennenbaum. Other Commissioners made suggestions for potential people and/or organizations to approach for donations.

Ann Clements said we are about \$90,000 short of the goal.

After determining there was no further business or discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director