



MINUTES

North Little Rock History Commission meeting February 11, 2020

Commission Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian

Commission Members Absent:

None

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the February 11, 2020 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. with all Commissioners present.

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the January 14, 2020 History Commission meeting. Ann Clements moved to approve January 2020 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Belinda Burney and approved by all in voice vote.

Staff Report:

Sandra Smith reported on donations since the January 2020 meeting.

1. 146 8 X 10 black and white photos of fires in North Little Rock- Donated by Bob Franklin
2. Complete sets of NLRHS "Hi Comet" newspapers 1966-1969; various photos of students from the NLRHS class of 1969; newspaper clippings pertaining to the class of 1969- Donated by Janie George Traywick
3. Three City and Town Magazines 2018-2019 featuring Mayor Joe A. Smith- Donated by North Little Rock Mayor's office
4. Artifacts from Hank's Dog House Restaurant- aprons, cloth napkins, matchbooks, keychain, ashtray, beverage glass, sugar dispenser, article about Gwynn Cochran and her grandmother from Feb. 22, 1959 AR Gaz, AR Life Magazine with article "Lost Restaurants", Dec. 2010- Donated by Paul and Jeff Prideaux
5. Eight Life Magazines concerning the assassination of John F. Kennedy; AR Gaz articles covering the assassination of John F. Kennedy- Donated by John Carr
6. 1960 North Little Rock High School Cheerleader uniform, jacket, shorts; Replica of memorial block for the NLRHS Class of 1960 located at the Cowboy's AT&T Stadium in Dallas, TX- Donated by Joyce Buckner Shirley

Minutes of North Little Rock History Commission
Meeting of February 11, 2020
Page 2

Sandra Smith told Commissioners that the showing of “10,000 Black Men Named George” at the Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizens Center on February 6 was very well attended and enjoyed by all. Ms. Smith also reported the North Little Rock High School Task Force is conducting an inventory of furniture in the building. She said there is little of the original furniture, maybe a typing desk or two and a few shelves. A graduation gown and cap were procured for the History Commission archives. She said plans have been drawn for school administration offices to move into the first and second stories, but there are no funds to do the renovations.

Chairman’s Report

Chairman Suzanne Jackson told Commissioners that there is a meeting scheduled with Mayor Smith on February 19 to update him on fundraising for the museum/exhibit project.

Ms. Jackson asked staff and Commissioners to think about goals for the building such as exhibits, archives, staff needs, programs, volunteers, social media, etc. She asked that everyone send suggestions to her via email by Tuesday, February 18.

There was discussion about Art Walk, to be held on February 21. John Gaudin will provide a sandwich board for outside advertising, wine and food. Ann Clements has volunteered to be the artist in February. Suzanne Jackson said she will be there to greet people and hand out brochures. She asked if Commissioners will agree to be at Art Walk on a rotating basis. They are held the third Friday of each month from 5pm to 8pm. Ms. Jackson said she is working with Debra Wood to put together a vendor agreement. Debra will also suggest artists.

Discussion followed about the exterior of the building. It was determined lighting, banners, planters and plants would help. Deana Montgomery said the Park Hill Garden Club will contribute.

Belinda Burney said the S. A. Jones Alumni reunion will be held at the airport Holiday Inn July 15-19.

Suzanne Jackson asked all to look at the City’s Website and the page on it devoted to the History Commission and Historic District Commission and get back to her with feedback.

After determining there was no further business or discussion, Deana Montgomery moved to adjourn. Kristal Clark seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director