



MINUTES

North Little Rock History Commission meeting February 13, 2018

Commission Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director

Commission Members Absent:

Eartha Dobbins

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the February 13, 2018 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established. It was announced that Eartha Dobbins was in the hospital.

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the January 9, 2018 History Commission meeting. Ann Clements moved to approve the January 2018 minutes as written. Belinda Burney seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote.

Staff Report

Sandra Smith reported on acquisitions since the last meeting.

1. Assorted political campaign pins- Donated by Suzanne Jackson
2. Baring Cross class photo (c.1924-25)- Donated by Bettye Butler
3. Scrapbook items from Jeff Davis Junior High School and items from NLR High School Class of 1958- Donated by Betty Mason Martin
4. "Wanted Poster" for the Collum Brothers, dated 1906. Purchased on eBay.
5. "Door Knocker" with a metal, oval-shaped plate of Argenta Plumbing Co. Purchased on eBay.

Commissioners discussed other North Little Rock items for sale on eBay.

Sandra Smith reported that the company who inspected the moisture issue with the History Commission building at 506 Main estimates \$29,000 to repair and remedy the problems. Capping a ledge along the north wall, repair of brick damaged by moisture and tuckpointing are among the items listed as needed to deal with the moisture seeping into the building's walls. Ms. Smith said Mayor Smith is in agreement that we should apply for Historic Preservation Restoration Grant. The grant is due on March 9 and Ms. Smith will continue to work on the grant for submission to the

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Arkansas Historic Preservation Program. If the grant is awarded, work will begin in the late summer of 2018.

Chairman Report

Suzanne Jackson talked about the “Opening Doors” exhibit and the “Picture It” exhibit of Jim Billings’ camera collection. Commissioners discussed having a work session on the exhibit installation at the next meeting on Tuesday, March 13. It was decided not to have a grand opening for this exhibit, but to heavily promote it on social media.

In discussion about exhibits, Commissioners suggested that Bedford Photo may want to be a sponsor, particularly where lots of photography is involved.

Belinda Burney said she would like to update and expand the North Little Rock Black History panels. Sarah Davidson, a native of North Little Rock, who now lives in Maryland has the original documents and staff will be in touch with her. Sandra Smith said the Commission has a large collection of digital images collected for the panels when they were assembled in 1999.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director