



MINUTES

North Little Rock History Commission meeting January 10, 2017

Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Jackson, Chairman
Belinda Burney
Kristal Clark
Deeana Montgomery
Eartha Dobbins
Ann Clements

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian

Commission Members Absent:

none

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the January 10, 2017 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established with all Commissioners present.

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the November 8, 2016 History Commission meeting. Ann Clements moved to approve the November 2016 minutes as written. Belinda Burney seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote. No formal meeting was held in December as the December 1 grand opening of the exhibit "North Little Rock Railroads: Building a City" and two Sunday open houses were held in December.

Staff Report

Sandra Smith reported that as of date over 600 people have come in to see the Railroad exhibit. She said the train tree will stay up and be decorated seasonally. Historic Valentine cards that Kristal Clark found, all having something to do with trains, are being printed and will be hung on the tree for February. Shamrocks will decorate the tree in March, then an Easter theme for spring. Suzanne Jackson purchased a number of red, white and blue patriotic themed items for Memorial Day and the Fourth of July.

Sandra Smith reported that due to work on the railroad exhibit, staff is still compiling a list of items donated since the November 2016 meeting. Ms. Smith reported that last Friday eight ledgers from Central Bank were donated to the Commission. These were in the home of Joseph Jung, 3321 Magnolia Street in Park Hill. Jung was a Vice-President at Central Bank.

Thursday morning, January 12 Sandra Smith will be hosting a group of students from Korea at 506 Main Street, and will do a walking tour of Main Street on the way to North Little Rock City Hall for a tour of that building.

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Cary Bradburn reported on reading through research on railroads that was compiled by David Hogue through newspaper references. Mr. Bradburn said Michael Hiblong may be able to present a program on his railroad book in April. He said he will follow up with Hiblong on a date for a program.

Chairman Report

Suzanne Jackson said she would like to see some interactive exhibit devices be installed in the exhibit areas of the building. Small screens that are touch activated will be researched. She also said there should be a brochure or flyer on the current exhibit to help promote it.

Commissioners discussed school field trips and fifth grade Arkansas History curriculum. Belinda Burney and Ann Clements are going to pursue a way to get North Little Rock history incorporated into fifth grade Arkansas studies.

Participation in the 3rd Friday Art Walk was discussed. Ann Clements moved to not participate in 3rd Friday Art Walk. Belinda Burney seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote.

Suzanne Jackson talked about the film “10,000 Black Men Named George”. She suggested for Black History Month in February, the Commission have a showing of the movie at 506 Main Street. She explained that it is the story of Pullman Porters and would fit in well with the railroad exhibit. The movie is 95 minutes and R rated. Commissioners discussed inviting groups to view the movie, having popcorn, etc. The third week of February was discussed as a good week to show the movie.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director