



North Little Rock History Commission meeting September 12, 2017

Commission Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian

Commission Members Absent:

Debra Wood

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the September 12, 2017 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established. It was reported that Debra Wood had an excused absence.

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the August 8, 2017 History Commission meeting. A correction to those present was noted. On a motion by Ann Clements to approve the August minutes and a second by Deeana Montgomery, the minutes were approved by all in voice vote.

Staff Report

Items donated to the North Little Rock History Commission since the last meeting were reported:

1. 1949 North Little Rock Automobile License Plate, Newspaper Clippings pertaining to construction of the Hydro Plant- Donated by Greg Yielding
2. 1920 L. C. Smith & Corona typewriter, 1930s/40s Underwood typewriter- Donated by Jane Ploszay
3. Metal Iron- Donated by Jane Ploszay
4. Two photos of the Old Mill, c. 1940- Donated by Alvin H. White
5. Scanned items from scrapbook including photographs, newspaper clippings and other materials from North Little Rock schools- Clendenin, McRae, St. Mary's, 4th Street Junior High, Jeff Davis Jr. High, Park Hill, Levy- Donated by Jan Sanders

Staff of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commission met with staff last week. They asked if the North Little Rock History Commission would be interested in participating in an event on January 15, 2018 to honor the “North Little Rock Six”. Ms. Smith said she told them the History Commission would be delighted to work with them on such an event. More information will be forthcoming as they develop plans for the event. It was discussed that the black history exhibit panels should be reframed, as the frames are deteriorating.

Sandra Smith reported that Bob Hardin has agreed to let the History Commission place some “tombstones” in his courtyard for the October 28 Booseum event. She said she has a meeting with Allison Hiblong with the AR Inland Maritime Museum on September 20 to discuss Booseum. Ms. Hiblong will bring the items from last year’s Booseum. Both the History Commission and AIMM will have \$300 to spend on candy, decorations, and other items for the event. Commissioners discussed having coloring pages of historic sites in North Little Rock.

Chairman’s Report

Suzanne Jackson told the Commission that the Friends of North Little Rock History has applied for a mini-grant (\$2,000) with the AR Humanities Council. If approved, the grant will start on October 15 and provide funds to further develop consultant Jay Miller’s plan for exhibits on the first floor of 506 Main Street.

Ms. Jackson said that the History Commission will have an open house on the day of the North Little Rock Christmas parade, which is normally on the first Sunday of December. Commissioners discussed having more wood ornaments such as one of a trolley car made for the Christmas Open House. In January, the “Opening Doors” exhibit will be installed.

Belinda Burney told Commissioners that Jujuan Johnson will be at the Old State House for a presentation on the Dark Hollow neighborhood. Ms. Burney will notify all of the date.

After determining there was no further business or discussion, Ann Clements made a motion to adjourn. Belinda Burney seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director