



MINUTES

North Little Rock History Commission meeting October 11, 2016

Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Jackson, Chairman
Belinda Burney
Kristal Clark
Deeana Montgomery

Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director
Cary Bradburn, Historian

Commission Members Absent:

Eartha Dobbins
Ann Clements

Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the October 11, 2016 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established. Eartha Dobbins and Ann Clements had excused absences.

Ms. Jackson asked Commissioners if they had read the minutes of the July 14, 2016 History Commission meeting (no meeting was held in August and there was not a quorum at the September 8, 2016 meeting). Belinda Burney moved to approve the October 2016 minutes as written. Kristal Clark seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote.

Staff Report

Sandra Smith reported the following donations received since the July 2016 meeting:

- 1) Wooden 5ft. tall witch from Burns Park Funland Spookhouse- Donated by Starlia Aubrey
- 2) Photographs from Scipio A. Jones High School- Donated by Charlotte Thomas
- 3) Original documents and newspaper clippings related to the North Little Rock History Commission 1975-1988- Donated by former History Commissioner Betty Harp
- 4) Architectural drawings and specifications for Riverfront Park Development 1998; Riverfront/downtown redevelopment 2004; Memorial Hospital 1960 blueprints for mechanical systems; Memorial Hospital drawings for 1968 addition; Memorial Hospital drawings for 1976 expansion; North Little Rock High School construction drawings 1928- Donated by Gary Clements
- 5) Scanned images from 1964 North Little Rock High School groups- Donated by Terry Mercing
- 6) Typewritten call list from a Casey Laman campaign for Mayor- Donated by Suzanne Jackson
- 7) Photograph of Mr. McDonnell, grandfather of John Owens (Chamber of Commerce)- Donated by John Owens
- 8) 24 x 36 in. Engelberger Family Tree- Donated by Chuck Engelberger

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Ms. Smith reported that she presented a program on North Little Rock's role in World War I through Fort Roots and Camp Pike to the Heritage Seekers. She also reported that the History Commission hosted a meeting of the national Scipio A. Jones Alumni Board on October 7-8.

Chairman Report

Suzanne Jackson reported that there will be a formal opening of the North Little Rock Railroads exhibit on Thursday, December 1, 2016 from 5pm. to 7pm. Invitations will be sent for this event. There will be an open house of the exhibit on Sunday, December 4, the same day as the Christmas Parade downtown. Commissioners discussed possible refreshments and other items for the open house.

Ms. Jackson said the railroad exhibit will have seven 4ft.X 8ft. panels detailing the development of the railroad in North Little Rock and its impact on the city. The panels are insulation board that will be painted and framed. Ms. Jackson also said that the History Commission will be obtaining the Christmas lights in the outline of a train that were used in Burns Park. The plan is to install them outside on the north side of 506 Main Street.

Comments

Sandra Smith announced that there will be an open house at the Old Mill on Tuesday, October 25 from 2pm until 6pm. The non-profit "Friends of the Old Mill" are trying to bring attention to the park and begin work on major projects there. The North Little Rock Heritage Center will be partnering with the AR Inland Maritime Museum for "Booseum" on October 27. The consortium of Little Rock Museums holds this event each year and this is the first time a museum on the north side of the river will be participating. Ms. Smith also announced that the Arkansas Archives will be holding a seminar at 506 Main on Saturday, October 29. The seminar is about researching historic properties and will take place from 9am to 2pm. Deadline for registration is October 25.

The Union Pacific steam engine will be in North Little Rock on October 24 as it travels through the state. Commissioners discussed having t-shirts made with the train exhibit logo.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director