

Minutes of the City Board Meeting of the Fairhope Museum of History
April 4, 2018

In Attendance:

Catherine King – Board Member
Wayne Brunson – Board Member
Paul Czajka – Board Member
John Taratsas – Board Member
Donnie Barrett, Director – Fairhope Museum of History
Darby Wiik, Museum Assistant – Fairhope Museum of History

4:02 pm – Reviewed and approved minutes from last meeting, January 3, 2018

Accession list of items received thus far in 2018 was circulated around the table – moved and second - items were accepted into the permanent collection

Donnie reported on several items as a follow-up to the previous meeting discussion including:

- Attendance report – The group passed around the figures for attendance for museum and welcome center for Jan/Feb/Mar 2018

| Museum | Welcome Center |
|---|--|
| • January = 1267 | • January = 2022 |
| • February = 2314 | • February = 3924 |
| • March = 3215 | • March = 4958 |
| • Annual total so far this year = 6,796 | • Annual total so far this year = 10,904 |

- “Now and Then” exhibit update: He is about halfway finished preparing items for his. He discussed getting in intern from University West Alabama soon – and the student will be helping with this.
- Pot cherds project update: Graduate intern Taylor Lawhon is working with local ceramic artist John Rezner to help re-create the pottery stilts and stars that would have comprised the kiln furniture of the 1830’s-1840’s archaeological site - reconstruction of pottery manufacturer at Fly Creek – excavated in the 1990’s. Donnie still expects there to be a museum exhibit related to this project – needs to be completed by the end of April due to the intern’s final grade timeline - likely the display will be on the first floor, near the Clay City exhibit.
- E.B. Gaston statue project update: We received a quote from an artist for \$51,000 to create an E.B. Gaston bronze statue as discussed previously by the group. Donnie said he no longer feels this is a priority due to the timeline before his retirement and the amount of time it is taking to get the historical marker (Nancy Lewis) approved.
- Historical survey editing update: Reported he is unable to edit mistakes in the historical survey that the City paid \$9,000 for in 2016 and it seems this may be permanent – According to David Schneider, author of the survey, *“The original survey files themselves were completed in FileMaker Pro. I could probably figure out how to export the text or you could use that software. The maps are more problematic as they would have to port out to something compatible with AutoCAD.”*
- Other / New info:
 - Archival storage boxes were ordered, received, assembled and military uniforms and a trail maid dress were put in – now in archival storage
 - Re Kuykendall Award – Bob Glennon submitted material for museum – Our entry didn’t win but the project has value to the museum because it creates a compilation / archive of two years of programming. Bob Glennon is also making a compilation of articles – 10 years of Fairhope history “stories” from the Friends’ newsletter – a book to be sold or given away – Donnie wants to do it inexpensively if possible.

- Tea – The museum has sold over \$15,000 of tea total from the time it started selling tea in 2012 – We have been having our high school intern, Lucy, prepare bags of tea to sell in the gift shop for us – soon Josh Graham will be back once a week to help with this.

Other:

The board realized we are short a member and concluded we need to place a new member

Adjourned.