

Fairhope Museum of History

Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes

July 1, 2015

Attendees: Mike Ford, Sherry Sullivan, Catherine King, Curt Cochran, Wayne Brunson, Donnie Barrett and Jim Bates. The quarterly meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. Minutes from the April 2015 board meeting were distributed and approved.

Director Barrett presented the museum accession list covering the second quarter of 2015. All items were approved for acceptance.

Museum attendance for the second quarter as follows: April - 1,736, May - 1,100, June - 1,548 Total Q2 - 4,384. (Avg. 1461/mo.)

With assistance from board member John Taratsas, the museum will be acquiring one of the old Post Office boxes to be put on display here.

Director report:

- The Bay Boat exhibit is complete and getting wonderful reviews from all who see it.
- A warm welcome to new board member, Wayne Brunson.
- Wayne and Becky Brunson have graciously offered their home for the summer docent party on July 16.
- The IT department is progressing nicely on the Touch Screen project. Once the city's new phone system is finished, they should be able to complete the finishing touches on the first kiosk.
- The People's Railroad project is further along now that we have rail and wheels. Public Works will begin preparing the sight next week. Sherry Sullivan questioned the cost of the project and its absence from our budget. We will get cost projections to her shortly.
- The Bus Tours are slated for July 18. Approximately half of the tickets have already sold and we anticipate a complete sell-out in the next week or so.
- The Elderberry Festival is scheduled for August 8. This year we will have a slightly revised format but an equally successful and highly entertaining event.
- This year's Walking Tours in April were very well attended in spite of the rain for three of the four tours. We ended up at number 3 statewide in attendance.

Sherry Sullivan requested financial support from Councilman Ford for a 2nd kiosk and a color copier. Councilman Ford stated the he would "fight hard" to get us the funding we need to keep the museum a tourist favorite and a Fairhope treasure.

Sherry Sullivan announced that the museum will be entered into the "Attraction of the Year" competition which is conducted by the Alabama Department of Tourism. The award last year was given to Battleship Park. What an honor that will be for the City of Fairhope when we win!

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

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