

HERITAGE PRESERVATION, INC.
Minutes of Meeting, 8-28-2017

Those present: Betty Champion, Chuck Hyde, Wayne Williams, Hester Cope, Lee Freeman, Carolyn Waterman, Judy Tiffin, Mary Peck, Billy Warren

1. Wayne Williams made the motion that the minutes of the 7-24-2017 meeting be approved. Chuck Hyde seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. Billy Warren presented this financial report:

a. Checking Account Balance	\$1,062.44
b. Forks of Cypress Account Balance	\$3,234.78

Carolyn Waterman made the motion that the report be approved. Betty Champion seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3. Billy Warren, on behalf of the Board, expressed sincere sympathy to Board member Mary Peck in the recent loss of her daughter, Sandra (Peck) Franks. Billy announced that the children's book, *Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe and Flo* by Laurel Molk, has been placed in the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library in her memory. Mary expressed heartfelt thanks to the Board.
4. In the absence of Dick Jordan, there was not an update of projects of the City of Florence. Carolyn Waterman reminded everyone that a public hearing relative to the re-development of Veterans Park is scheduled for tonight at 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium of City Hall.
5. Lee Freeman reported that the Lauderdale County Cemetery Preservation and Rehabilitation Authority (LCCPRA) will resume its work in late September or early October, with the Hough family cemetery in St. Florian as its first projects.
6. Chuck Hyde reported that the boundary dispute regarding the servant cemetery adjacent to the Coffee family cemetery is still in negotiation. It is hoped that this matter can be settled in time for Florence's Bicentennial celebration that begins on March 12, 2018.
7. Jeremy Britten (*in absentia*) presented his proposed design for HPI's revised website and asked for suggestions regarding content. All Board members present today had high praise for the design. These suggestions regarding content were forthcoming:
 - a. Include the color-coded map that shows the boundaries of Florence's ten (10) National Historic Districts and its one Alabama Historic District.

- b. Include the 1852 map of Florence.
 - c. Include the Florence City Cemetery that is now on the Alabama Register of Historic Cemeteries.
 - d. Include links to the following websites:
 - (1) Florence-Lauderdale Tourism Bureau
 - (2) City of Florence
 - (3) Florence-Lauderdale Public Library
 - (4) Tennessee Valley Historical Society
 - (5) City of Florence Arts and Museums Department
 - (6) Colbert Chapter, Natchez Trace Parkway Association
 - (7) Natchez Trace Genealogical Society
 - (8) Lauderdale County Rootsweb
 - (9) Collier Library (UNA) Archives
 - (10) Guidelines for Exterior Changes to Residences in Historic Districts
 - (11) Guidelines for Exterior Changes to Commercial Buildings in Historic Districts
 - (12) Shoals Storytelling Festival
8. Billy Warren distributed and briefly reviewed the letter sent by Mayor Steve Holt on August 31, 2017, to all residents in the new McFarland Heights Historic District which includes all structures on Riverview Drive, Riverview Circle, Grove Street and Pleasant Circle. With the addition of this District, Florence now has 700+ individual structures listed on the National Register of Historic Places!
9. Carolyn Waterman, as the secretary of the Shoals Storytelling Festival, made this report:
- a. Members of the Board of Directors are:
 - (1) Bill Cale
 - (2) Rob Carnegie
 - (3) Debbie Chaffin
 - (4) Jan Ingle
 - (5) Billy Warren
 - (6) Carolyn Waterman
 - (7) Tom White
 - b. Christi Britten is the Director.
 - c. Nationally-known storytellers are already committed for the 2018 Festival.
 - d. The Festival in 2018 will once again be held in the Shoals Theater on the same weekend as Arts Alive.
 - e. Work is underway to file Articles of Incorporation and to apply for 501(c)(3) status.
10. Billy Warren distributed and reviewed copies of an article entitled “Nashville Short-Term Rentals Need Reasonable Regulation” by Logan Key. Billy urged all Board members to read the article carefully. It details the struggles that residents of Historic Districts in Nashville continue to have with the AirB&B trend. Billy praised the City of Florence for its stand that an AirB&B is viewed the same as any other B&B in a residential Historic

District: the owner of a B&B must live in the property; otherwise, it's considered to be a hotel – and hotels are not permitted in a residential Historic District.

11. Lee Freeman distributed copies of the August, 2017, issue of *Kidsville News*.
12. Here are the notes (with a few changes made at today's meeting) from the discussion at the 7-24-2017 meeting regarding the possibility of HPI's creating a list of outstanding local craftspersons (plasterers, masons, carpenters, painters, upholsterers, etc.):
 - a. The Board agreed on these guiding principles:
 - (1) We must determine the criteria for listing a person.
 - (2) We must include a disclaimer that the list is not an unequivocal guarantee of the quality of a person's work.
 - (3) The list must include the recommendation that anyone using the list check an individual craftsperson's references before hiring him/her.
 - b. These are the advantages of creating such a list:
 - (1) The novice who has, at best, limited experience in dealing with craftspersons will have a sense of security that the person he/she is considering is highly-skilled and knowledgeable.
 - (2) The list will show everyone that the Shoals area does, indeed, have highly-talented craftspersons.
 - (3) Craftspersons on the list would have a committed focus on the architecture of the Shoals.
 - (4) The list will reveal that there are local craftspersons with highly-specialized traditional skills such as plastering and *faux* painting.
 - c. There are at least two delicate issues that must be resolved before the list is published:
 - (1) How to answer this question by a craftsperson: "Why am I not on the list?"
 - (2) The procedure for removing a person's name from the list once it is registered

Stay tuned! This very worthy discussion will continue.

13. Billy Warren distributed copies of a brief article which he wrote for a recent class reunion on the history of Coffee High School.