

**HERITAGE PRESERVATION, INC.**  
**Minutes of Meeting, 12-18-2017**

Those present: Lee Freeman, John VanSandt, Hester Cope, Dick Jordan, Carolyn Waterman, Mary Peck, Chuck Hyde, Wayne Williams, Judy Tiffin, Billy Warren, Jay Hillis (Guest), Dr. George Makowski (Guest)

1. Wayne Williams made the motion that the minutes of the 11-27-2017 meeting be approved. John VanSandt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Billy Warren presented this financial report:

a. Checking Account Balance	\$1,162.44
b. Forks of Cypress Account Balance	\$3,234.78

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

3. Dick Jordan gave this report on current projects of the City of Florence:
  - a. There is a proposal before the City Council to amend a specific City ordinance that will enable the creation of an entertainment district in downtown Florence. The proposal is set to be acted on soon.
  - b. When bids are received for the expansion of the streetscape on East Tennessee Street from its present terminus at the intersection with North Poplar Street to the intersection with Dr. Hicks Boulevard, it will then be known whether sufficient funds remain to expand the streetscape south on Cherry Street to East College Street and from that point on East College Street to South Poplar Street.
4. Chuck Hyde reported that the Florence Historical Board will install markers at these sites in conjunction with the Bicentennial Celebration in 2018:
  - a. Southwest corner of Court and Tennessee Streets – to commemorate the early history of Florence;
  - b. Frank Lloyd Wright/Rosenbaum House – to highlight the only structure designed by Frank Lloyd Wright in the State of Alabama; and
  - c. Near the harbor in McFarland Park – to commemorate the history of attempts to “tame” the local portion of the Tennessee River in order to make it navigable year-round.
5. Dr. George Makowski, Chairman of the Lauderdale County Cemetery Rehabilitation Authority (LCCRA), stated that the Authority’s next project is the Huff family cemetery which is located near the entry to Boy Scout Camp Westmoreland. The goal of this project is to get the cemetery in a condition that will accommodate study by future researchers.
6. Lee Freeman distributed copies of the December, 2017, issue of *Kidsville News*.
7. Dick Jordan announced that HPI’s annual meeting at **2:00 P.M., SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2018**, will take place at Singin’ River Live, which is located on East College Street next door to Singin’ River Brewery. Everyone present at today’s meeting expressed gratitude to Michelle and Rob

Jones, owners of the venue, for allowing us to hold our meeting there. Gratitude was also extended to Dick Jordan for making the arrangements.

8. It was agreed that these presentations will constitute the program at HPI's annual meeting:
  - a. Libby Jordan – the exciting status of the museums owned by the City of Florence, and
  - b. Billy Warren – an overview of plans for Florence's Bicentennial Celebration.
9. These Board members agreed to provide refreshments for the annual meeting:
  - a. Punch – Betty Champion
  - b. Sweets – Hester Cope, Carolyn Waterman, Billy Warren
  - c. Non-Sweets – Mary Peck

If anyone else would like to volunteer for refreshments, please contact Billy Warren (256-718-5020; [brwarren@florenceal.org](mailto:brwarren@florenceal.org))

10. In an in-depth discussion, these people were nominated to be recipients of HPI's annual Capital Award:
  - a. Bobby Bugg – for his many years of careful stewardship of the Justice John McKinley Federal Building (the U.S. Post Office/Federal Courthouse)
  - b. Billy Ray Casteel – for his excellent restoration of the Gunrunner building (now the Gunrunner Boutique Hotel) on East Tennessee Street
  - c. Betty Champion – for her many years of promoting historic preservation and her careful attention to her own historic properties
  - d. Michelle and Rob Jones – for their excellent restoration of two commercial buildings on East College Street (Singin' River Brewery and Singin' River Live) and their leadership in the overall revitalization of East College Street

Carolyn Waterman made the motion that nominations cease. Lee Freeman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Lee Freeman made the motion that Bobby Bugg, Billy Ray Casteel, Betty Champion, and Michelle and Rob Jones be the official recipients of the Capital Award. John VanSandt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

11. Billy Warren distributed and briefly reviewed copies of the following documents:
  - a. An article entitled "How to Find Contractors and Architects for Your Historic Home Renovation";
  - b. A press release regarding the 2018 calendar that highlights the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of the City of Florence;
  - c. A list of all recipients of HPI's Capital Award since the institution of the award approximately 30 years ago; and
  - d. A color-coded map showing the locations of the 10 historic districts in Florence that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, including the newest district known as McFarland Heights (Riverview Drive, Riverview Circle, Pleasant Circle, Grove Street). With the addition of McFarland Heights, there are now more than 700 structures in Florence on the National Register! Billy reminded everyone that the historic district in east Florence is listed on the Alabama Register of Historic Places.

12. Following a discussion of the matter, Lee Freeman made the motion that Billy Warren write a letter to Dr. Kitts, president of the University of North Alabama. In the letter, Billy will ask that HPI be involved as UNA develops long-range plans that might have an impact on adjacent neighborhoods – especially neighborhoods that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Carolyn Waterman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
  
13. Billy Warren noted that the three-year term of these five (5) members of the Class of 2017 of the Board of Directors of Heritage Preservation, Inc. (HPI) will expire on December 31, 2017:
  - a. Jerry Dowd
  - b. Lee Freeman
  - c. Teryl Shields
  - d. Judy Tiffin
  - e. John VanSandt

These agreed to serve another three-year term as the Class of 2020:

- a. Lee Freeman
- b. Judy Tiffin
- c. John VanSandt