

HERITAGE PRESERVATION, INC.
Minutes of Meeting, 5-22-2017

Those present: Chuck Hyde, Mary Peck, John VanSandt, Betty Champion, Judy Tiffin, Wayne Williams, Lee Freeman, Dick Jordan, Carolyn Waterman, Billy Warren

1. Item #8.a in the minutes of the 4-24-2017 meeting states incorrectly that Lee Freeman will conduct a trolley tour in May, 2017, entitled "On the Trail of the Blue and Gray." With that correction, Betty Champion made the motion that the minutes be approved. Lee Freeman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Billy Warren presented these financial reports:

- a. April 24, 2017:

(1) Checking Account Balance	\$1,213.84
(2) Forks of Cypress Account Balance	\$3,234.78

- b. May 22, 2017:

(1) Checking Account Balance	\$1,253.84
(2) Forks of Cypress Account Balance	\$3,234.78

Wayne Williams made the motion that the reports be approved. Chuck Hyde seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

3. Billy Warren stated that the children's book, *All the Places to Love* by Patricia MacLachlan, in the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library in memory of David Cope, the late husband of HPI Board member, Hester Cope.
4. Dick Jordan made this report on relevant projects of the City of Florence:
 - a. A public hearing is set for Tuesday, June 6, regarding the possibility that regulations will be established for outdoor use of LED lighting.
 - b. The City has served as the fiscal agent for the upcoming Storytelling Festival (Friday and Saturday, May 19 and 20).
 - c. Application has been made by an out-of-town developer to build a large complex of apartments near the westernmost end of Irvine Avenue.
5. It was noted that, in addition to the annual Storytelling Festival this week (Friday and Saturday, May 19 and 20), the annual Arts Alive Festival is Saturday and Sunday (May 20 and 21).

Billy Warren reported that he will conduct two history-related trolley tours on Thursday, May 18, in conjunction with the Storytelling Festival. Sites included are:

- a. Indian Mound Museum,

- b. Frank Lloyd Wright/Rosenbaum House,
 - c. W.C. Handy Home and Museum (no embarkation), and
 - d. Ivy Green (Helen Keller Home).
6. Billy Warren reported that the staff at the Florence-Lauderdale Tourism Bureau has started a program that encourages citizens to be part of “Street Teams” to attend local events and approach others at the event to spread good public relations for Florence and Lauderdale County. Billy stated that a young man from Birmingham who is a student at UNA (and a Street Team member) talked with him at Arts Alive. So, the Street Team concept is working!

It was suggested at today’s meeting that the Street Team members might wear some type of identification – perhaps a vest – so their approach to people at public events will be accepted.

7. Dick Jordan reported on the Gunrunner Boutique Hotel being developed by Billy Ray Casteel in the former Gunrunner Gun Shop building on East Tennessee Street. It will have ten (10) large suites, a large public area for events such as wedding receptions and other amenities typical of a luxury hotel.
8. Chuck Hyde reported that he recently had an extensive telephone conversation with an out-of-town family that is interested in the large Victorian house at 629 North Wood Avenue. (It’s the same family with whom Billy Warren has met twice.) It is hoped that the house will soon return to private ownership and restored to its former beauty.
9. Dick Jordan expressed a huge compliment to the Florence Historical Board for its vigilance regarding historic properties in Florence and for its very effective work with applicants who wish to make exterior changes on such properties.
10. Lee Freeman reported that the trolley tour, “Riding with Outlaws,” which he conducted recently was well attended by a receptive group of people interested in local history.
11. Lee Freeman distributed copies of the May, 2017, issue of *Kidsville News*. Billy Warren encouraged everyone to read the article in this issue written by Lee. It gives a brief history of a small town called South Florence which was located at the Colbert County end of the old Railroad Bridge.
12. Billy Warren distributed copies of a multi- page document, prepared by Joel Mize, regarding the role played by the Shoals area in World War I.

Attached to the document was a request that HPI make a financial donation toward the creation of a monument to commemorate the 101 unidentified individuals who died in Nitrate #2 Hospital during the influenza pandemic of 1918 and were buried in a plot

known as the Nitrate Corps cemetery, a portion of the Paupers Section of Sheffield's Oakwood Cemetery.

Carolyn Waterman made the motion that HPI contribute \$100.00 toward the proposed monument. Dick Jordan seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

13. Carolyn Waterman suggested that HPI consider the development of a list of local craftspeople (e.g., carpenters, plumbers, painters, electricians, etc.) who are artisans in their respective field so the list might be shared with anyone planning to do restoration projects. Following a brief discussion of the pros and cons regarding the development of such a list, it was agreed that further discussion of the topic will take place at future meetings of the HPI Board of Directors.