



**Museum Committee Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2024**

Members Present:

Dot LaMarche
Sue-Ann Hansler
Eric Johnson
Bill Rhodes
Bill Battle
Paul Bergen
Beverley Hammond

Members Absent:

Joyce Moran
Henry Bird
Steve Wilson
Timothy Cho (Student)
Edmund Terry (Student)
David White (Alderman)

Staff in Attendance:

Ron Oestreich

Guests in Attendance:

Mayor Williams

1. Dot Called the meeting to order at 1:06pm

2. Approval of Minutes from 1/23/24 Meeting (amended to include Bill Rhodes as absent)

Motion: Sue-Ann
2nd: Bill Rhodes
Motion Passes

3. Black History Month Event Recap

Discussion ensued regarding the event.

Positive Comments: Edmund did a nice job reading a long script. The refreshments were great.

Areas to improve:

- Although Andre did a wonderful job of securing speakers, the committee was hoping to hear more about the progress African Americans have made on society.
- Dr. Fleming was a good speaker, but the topic was intense.
- Despite all of the publicity, we were hoping for a stronger turnout.
- Again, everyone was appreciative of a non-committee member (Andre) taking her time to schedule speakers and pivot quickly when the dance troupe cancelled.
- The musician (Mr. Taylor) made several people uncomfortable with his strong comments as well.
- We will start the process earlier for the event next year.

4. Living History Event Update - Sue-Ann Reported

- The event will be on Sunday, April 28 from 1:30 to 4:00. Meet at the Community Center at NOON.
- There will be a shuttle bus taking people from Community Center to Pleasant Forest
- We are depicting 14 people at the cemetery with varying degrees of service to the community, State, and Nation throughout their lives.
- Rachel Malone, Recreation and Events Manager securing acting students from FHS to be actors.
- Sue-Ann has spoken to and secured several family members from several of the depicted people.
- Costumes will be secured by the school or Parks and Rec team.

5. Battle of Campbell Station Monument Update – Eric

- Discussion about a potential monument ensued.
- Sue-Ann reached out to Boyd Foundation to see if they have any donation dollars available.
- The initial step is to decide what we would like to see as a monument.
- We do not want to have a monument that will be a target for criticism or vandalism.
- Eric, Bill Rhodes, and Ron O will meet to research potential monuments and what potential costs are for them. They will then bring this information to the committee.

6. Charter / Bi-Laws Discussion –

- Museum is the only committee in the Town with both a Charter and Bi-Laws
- Ron O will look at both docs and combine them into one Charter by the April meeting.
- Committee agreed. Motion: Mayor Williams. 2nd: Sue-Ann.
- Ron O will send to the committee when done and vote them in at the next meeting.

7. Parade float Discussion –

- Ron O suggested with all of the changes etc. that we keep the same Admiral Farragut Boat Parade float for another year. Committee agreed. Motion: Sue-Ann. 2nd: Bill Battle.
- Dot asked Bill Rhodes to be Admiral Farragut in the Parade. He agreed.
- Ron O will contact Bud for a trailer and truck.
- Ron O will also check the storage facility for flags and banners.
- Build day will be on Wednesday, July 3 at Public Works. Time to be announced.
- Potential repairs will be needed.

8. Open Discussion on Design of Future Museum

- Eric stated this is a great opportunity for us to work with a professional from Knoxville Historical Society or another potential museum to help us properly design the interior of the new museum.
- Ron O stated that he budgeted for some new display cases.
- Sue-Ann suggested that we rotate the artifacts in the museum every 2 months to keep things fresh
- Ron O also stated that we will likely be hiring a new Historical Resources Coord in October/November.
- It was agreed that after July 4th the museum committee will look for an expert and begin the interior design process.

9. **Reminder to RSVP for the Volunteer Banquet (Friday, April 5)**

Upcoming Museum Committee Events Dates

Tuesday, April 23 1:00pm	April Committee Meeting	Community Center
Sunday, April 28 1:30pm	Pleasant Forest Cemetery	Living History Event
Tuesday, May 28 1:00pm	May Committee Meeting	Community Center

Adjournment 2:25pm

Motion: Sue-Ann

2nd. Bill Rhodes