



**Museum Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 24, 2026**

Members Present:

Sue-Ann Hansler, Dot LaMarche, John Osborne, Bill Battle, Beverley Hammond, Bill Rhodes, Chris Carnes, Mayor Williams

Members Absent:

Eric Johnson, Joyce Moran, Paul Bergen, Kinsley (Student)

Staff in Attendance:

Ron Oestreich
Kristi Vining

Sue-Ann Hansler, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes from 1/27/26 Meeting

Motion: John O
2nd: Bill B
Motion Passed

Update on Docents and Volunteers – Kristi Vining (in place of Joyce M)

- Several new docents have been vetted and added to the schedule.
- The March schedule has been completed and distributed to the docents.

Historic Resources Coordinator Report – Kristi V.

Museum Attendance and Gift Shop Revenue

- Kristi reported that since July 1, 2025, there have been 1,347 people who visited the museum with 136 of those visiting on Saturday.
- Total Gift Shop revenue was \$285.80 for the month starting January 27 and ending February 23, 2026. This includes the sales tax that was collected

General Update

- Approximately 50 people were present for the Black History Month presentation by the Word Players.
- The Lone Star sign is being repaired due to a gentleman who does neon sign repairs. He is donating his labor. The materials are being paid for with Museum Committee Funds.
- A donation has been made of a coin from the SS Republic has been received by the Museum. This coin was retrieved from the sunken ship; the SS Republic which was carrying coins from the US Mint in San Francisco.
- Kristi is developing a “Find Admiral Farragut” scavenger hunt in the museum. This will allow children to learn more about Admiral Farragut.
- To celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States, there will be monthly activities throughout the Town. These include a chalk art activity at the Ralph McGill Plaza, a Red, White and Bluegrass concert, the 4th of July Parade, a community reading of the Declaration of Independence, a concert in Founder’s Park, a bus tour of the Town featuring Founder’s Park, the plaza at the Town Hall, Pleasant Forest Cemetery and other significant Town areas.
- The Museum will feature History Panels from the Tennessee State Museum-Voices from Tennessee plus a few extra panels. These will be displayed in the Third Gallery for six weeks starting in September.
- The History Hour for March will feature Charlie Rhodarmer from the Sequoyah Museum. Because the History Hour and the Museum Committee meeting are the same day with only a hour break, lunch will be available for the committee members
- Sue-Ann Hansler has contacted Tim Burchetts office about obtaining a US Flag which has been flown over the US Capital. We will be given a Statement of Authenticity when the Museum receives the flag. With a donation to the Museum, people will have an opportunity to enter a raffle for the flag. The Museum will purchase a display case for the flag.
- May 18 is National Museum Day. On May 14, there will be a Proclamation naming Frank Galbreath as the Farragut Historian.

Open Museum Operations Discussion

- There was a discussion about whether the display in the Third Gallery should be 6, 4 or 3 months. No decision was reached. Dr. Bartlett, principal of Farragut High School was suggested as a speaker for the History Hour series.
- Bill Rhodes mentioned that Farragut High School was featured in Colliers Magazine in 1914 for its progressive curriculum which included classes in Agriculture and Home Economics. These classes were unusual during this period.
- The DVDs about the Birth of Farragut have been found so copies will be made and will be available for sale at the Museum.

Communications from the Public

- There were no communications from the Public

Adjournment @ 1:47 pm

Motion: Chris Carnes 2nd Bill Rhodes

Next Meeting - Tuesday, March 24. 1:00pm