

**Cayce Historical Museum Commission Meeting**

Wednesday, November 6, 2019  
4:00 pm

**Minutes**

Members Present: Dale Gaskins, Archie Moore, Marion Hutson, Judy Corbitt, AG Dantzler, Leo Redmond, and Alice Brooks

Staff: Jerry Kirkland, Museum Curator, and Andy Thomas, Museum Assistant

City of Cayce: Tracy Hegler, City Manager, Mendy Corder, Municipal Clerk

Absent: Mary Sharpe, Cindy Peake, excused

- Commissioner Chair Dale Gaskins called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Dantzler offered the invocation.
- Chairman Gaskins recognized City of Cayce staff as well as Linda Wessinger, a potential Board candidate.
- The minutes from the October, 2019 meeting were presented for review. After discussion and a few minor changes, the minutes were adopted unanimously, moved and seconded by Commissioners Hutson and Corbitt, respectively. They have been submitted to members, staff and City officials at this writing.
- Christmas Traditions and Open House: Saturday, December 7, 2019, 6:00 pm
  - Plans, as previously submitted, were reviewed and minor corrections to docents and entertainment.
  - The trees have all been assembled and placed, decorations brought in. Staff reminded Commissioners to call in advance of coming to decorate, so that they will be there to help. The main decorating dates will be from November 22 – December 5<sup>th</sup>. The theme “Santa’s Workshop” has been well-received and everything appears to be in order for a successful event.
  - The official Volunteer Pizza Party is set for Tuesday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be sent a reminder card a week or so out.
  - Publicity was discussed and, in conjunction with the City of Cayce’s efforts, all media will be contacted.
  - The Program Brochure has been completed and will be sent to the printer closer to the event, to allow for any last minute changes when possible.
  - Commissioners were very complimentary of the posters, postcards and other enhancements presented. Staff encouraged Commissioners to take posters and postcards and help distribute.
- Staff Reports:
  - The Fire Truck is ready! Staff and others have worked on the minor finishing touches and repairs, and it looks (and drives!) great. The Fire Truck will be an integral part of the Museum’s and City’s Christmas festivities this year.
  - The Museum will sponsor two spots for the Christmas Parade of Lights: the Fire Truck, which Jerry Kirkland and Commissioner Dantzler will drive, as well as some of the original volunteers who rode the truck when it was first active (if they want to do so).

- The Museum's regular float displaying the replica of the historic house, always a popular addition to the parade, will also be included. Commissioner Hutson has lined up volunteers for this.
- The Fire Truck will be part of another event sometime in early 2020 as an official "showcase" for this important piece of Cayce history. This Fire Truck is the very first fire truck in Cayce, an historic 1936 REO. In addition to Museum staff and ex-officio Leo Redmond, thanks go to Public Safety Lt. Paul Dufault and Assistant City Manager Jim Crosland for helping make this possible.
- Commissioners agreed that the Fire Truck showcase could be held in conjunction with the Smokehouse grand opening. A Chili Cook-off/Fundraiser has also been suggested.
- Smokehouse – will actually open in January, but staff and Commissioners are planning an educational event around this (possibly February) to correspond with traditional smoking and curing techniques used in Revolutionary times.
- History of Alcohol Exhibit - planned for January – April in the Changing Exhibits area. This is shaping up to be a very popular and interesting exhibit, illustrating the history of alcohol in Cayce, to include the rum trade and moonshining. Southern Essence Distillery and Steel Hands Brewery are also participating in this.
- Commissioner Corbitt and Museum Assistant Thomas are putting together a committee to explore the rich history of the African American experience in Cayce. The first meeting is scheduled for this month. More will be reported on this in early 2020.
- The chimney on the farmhouse kitchen will be repaired November 13. In a subsequent budget cycle, necessary repairs will also be made to the building's roof.
- The Storage Shed is in the process of being cleaned, organized, and items catalogued as appropriate.
- Staff pursued an Insurance Liability Policy for Volunteers. Two companies have been identified and are putting together bundled plans covering several options for the Museum and City to consider. Staff is exploring options, such as the cost may be absorbed by a donation to Saxe Gotha Foundation.
- The Membership Program was deferred until 2020.
- Other Reports and Upcoming Scheduled Events:
  - The Bluegrass Exhibit will be coming down. It was well-attended and the entertainment events were popular enough that this exhibit will probably return in the future.
  - November 13 – Ranger John Manchester, Congaree National Park presentation, 7:00 pm, detailing the history of the Park as well as man's impact on it.
  - November 19 – Native American Cooking Demo and Program with Lexington County Public Library (4:30-7:30 pm)
  - December 7 – Cayce Historical Museum Complex Christmas Traditions and Open House
  - December 14 - West Metro Christmas Parade
  - March 11 – Tom Elmore: The Irish in the Midlands, 7:00 pm
  - April 24-May 26 – SCHS Traveling Exhibit
  - Staff presented the usual attendance/budgetary reports (distributed separately to Commissioners and City)

- Action Items and Future Activities:

- Commissioners approved an immediate expenditure to improve the Board chairs. Motion was made and seconded by Dantzler and Brooks, respectively.
- Commission Chair Gaskins asked that any other potential Board Members get their paperwork in so that the vacant position can be filled in early 2020. Several candidates have been identified and/or expressed interest.

The next meeting of the Museum Commission will be Wednesday, December 4, 4:00 pm.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned (moved and seconded by Commissioners Dantzler and Brooks, respectively).

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Brooks, Commissioner