

Cayce Historical Museum Commission Meeting*
***ZOOM Virtual Meeting**

Wednesday, April 7, 2021
4:00 pm

Minutes

Members Present: Archie Moore, Mary Sharpe, David Brinkman, and Alice Brooks

Ex-Officio Member: Leo Redmond

Members Absent: AG Dantzler, Marion Hutson

Museum Staff: Jerry Kirkland, Curator; and Andy Thomas, Museum Office & Communications Associate

City of Cayce: Jim Crosland, Assistant City Manager, Mendy Corder, Municipal Clerk

- Commission Chairman Archie Moore called the meeting to order.
- Commissioner Sharpe offered the invocation.
- Chairman Moore welcomed City of Cayce Assistant Manager Jim Crosland and Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder and thanked them for their assistance in setting up this meeting.
- The March 3, 2021 minutes were reviewed and approved, moved and seconded by Commissioners Sharpe and Brinkman, respectively.
- There was discussion about the City Attorney's letter sent to Museum Commission Board Members in which Mr. Crowe indicated that the selection of candidates for the Board's three vacancies at the March meeting was "flawed and lacked fairness." Commission members felt that this was not the case because the application period was still open in February and no decision was made, even though several applicants were kind enough to attend the meeting to observe and state their interest. It was clearly stated that no decision would be made until the March meeting. Apparently this was discussed in executive session at the Cayce City Council meeting April 6 and no decision was made at that time. This leaves the Museum Board vacancies in limbo for the time being. Chairman Moore expressed his wish that the Board continue to operate in good faith and soldier on until this issue is resolved.
- Chairman Moore asked to discuss the proposed Standing Committees that were discussed at the March Meeting and had been planned pre-pandemic: Purchasing, Advertising, Finance, and Personnel. Commissioners agreed that this would be a difficult task as this time with only four Commission members. Commissioner Brooks moved that the committees not be filled until the Commission has a full complement of members. Commissioner Sharpe seconded and the motion carried.
- Chairman Moore reminded us that we had also discussed establishing a Docent/Volunteer Committee with all that it entails: energized recruitment, development of a training program, etc. Staff is directed to research what like organizations are doing regarding insurance for docents/volunteers and the possibility that the cost of same will be run through the Saxe-Gotha Foundation.
- Museum Staff Reports:
 - Jerry Kirkland and Andy Thomas once again expressed appreciation to the City for all the help the Museum has had during the past year. They reported that a lot of internal work has been done on the Museum's Public Safety Building. The flooring, particularly had presented a challenge, but has now been painted and displays are being cleaned/painted and ready for everything to be assembled. Commissioner

Moore stated that at one time we had a complete layout of how the Public Safety Building (the building that also houses the Firetruck) would be presented. Kirkland said that some changes were necessary due to additional artifacts and other things that had not been compiled yet. He was pleased to report that Cayce Public Safety had donated a jail cell replica that will be a highlight of the building and should delight visitors, especially children. Plans for a public event (if possible due to the ongoing pandemic) and media rollout will be discussed once the Commission Board is complete. "Big Red" is a very special and popular acquisition that has been years in restoration, with strong volunteer support, and needs to be promoted and celebrated.

- The Museum's Firetruck and collateral will be the main attraction for the SC Association of Firefighters Conference at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center June 10-12th. This is exciting and presents a huge opportunity for additional public relations for the Museum and its activities. Board members will be available to help in anyway.
- Andy Thomas referenced handouts that were sent to all Commissioners. Once again, Museum visitor attendance is up, but all safety protocols remain in place. Social media efforts remain robust. Commissioner Moore indicated this would be a good tool in recruiting new volunteers/docents as well.
- New Business:
 - The Museum may enter into an effort with the City's Beautification Committee to clean up the cemetery. More information of this to follow.
 - Clubs and organizations that regularly held meetings and used the Founder's Room pre-pandemic are ready to resume; however, we will wait on the City for guidance on public activities.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned (moved and seconded by Commissioners Brooks and Brinkman, respectively). **The next meeting of the Museum Commission will be Wednesday, May 5, 2021**, by Zoom, unless otherwise notified.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Brooks, Commissioner and Secretary

ajb/4.7.21