

Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2013

The Bethany Beach Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee held a meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 in the Bethany Beach Town Meeting Room, 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Members present: Carol Olmstead, who presided; Laren Hughes; Jan Kinsella; Theo Loppatto; Mary Lou McNerney; and Margaret Young.

Absent members: Claudia Dieste; Mary Lou Urquhart; and Jean Wode.

Also present: Lindsey Good, Administrative Secretary.

* Note: The order of the agenda items were modified so that Item VI. *Review and Discussion Regarding Oral History Videos* was discussed after Item III. *Update on Smithsonian Exhibit Event*.

Call to Order

Ms. Olmstead called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from February 19, 2013 Meeting

After a couple of amendments, Ms. Young made a motion to approve the minutes dated February 19, 2013. Seconded by Ms. Loppatto, the motion was unanimously approved.

Announcements

There were no announcements at this time.

Update on Smithsonian Exhibit Event

Ms. Olmstead reported that she and Ms. Loppatto attended a meeting today on the Smithsonian Exhibit Event and they will be meeting again on Thursday. The opening event will be taking place at the Town of Ocean View on May 19th. The invitations will be ordered soon and those invited include the CHAC members, Mayor, Town Council and Town Manager of Bethany Beach, Cliff Graviet.

Ms. Olmstead noted that there is a sub-committee that is responsible for the grand opening of the Smithsonian Exhibit.

Ms. Olmstead advised that the museum will need docent volunteers after the grand opening of the exhibit every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from May 19th through June 23rd. Ms. Kinsella, Ms. Loppatto, Ms. McNerney, Ms. Olmstead and Ms. Young volunteered to participate as docents during this time. Ms. Olmstead will contact all others from the other towns who are interested in being docents and all prior docents to schedule a meeting. If necessary, it can be advertised on the Town's website that additional docents are needed. She noted that there will be two docents working at a time and each shift are two and a half hours long.

Ms. Olmstead met with the head librarian of the South Coastal Library, who said that the library will be happy to set up a display of books for the exhibit and will display the poster to advertise the exhibit. She added that the poster will also be displayed at the other four (4) places around Town (Town Hall, PNC Bank, Bandstand, U.S. Post Office).

Review and Discussion Regarding Oral History Videos

Ms. Olmstead stated that Ms. Hughes has volunteered to edit the Oral History interviews to complete the final Oral History Project. Ms. Hughes presented an interview sample of Jean Steele that she created, and asked the members to provide their input. Ms. Olmstead added that if the members would prefer Ms. Hughes to finish completing the project, she will advise Mr. Disney of their decision.

All of the Committee members expressed that Ms. Hughes did a very good job on editing the interview, and that they would like her to take over the project.

Ms. Loppatto noted that the music that is played in the segments should be reviewed to be sure there aren't any copyright issues.

Ms. Hughes addressed that there is currently a humming noise that is heard on all of the interviews, and the only way to remove is with a more efficient type of software. The software that would allow her to create the most professional and highest quality project costs about \$2,500, and she expressed concern that this may be too expensive. Ms. Olmstead said that purchasing this type of software would be very beneficial in the long term, so she will talk to Town Manager, Cliff Graviet, to see if the cost should be covered by the Town or by CHAC.

The Committee ensued a discussion on whether the interviews should be separated by topic or by interviewees. Ms. Hughes said that she can create two (2) separate versions of the DVDs and the Committee agreed that this would be a good idea.

Ms. Hughes mentioned that the Committee members can feel free to contact her with any song selection suggestions to be included in the project.

Ms. Olmstead stated that she will contact Mr. Disney to let him know that Ms. Hughes is going to finish completing the project, and as a follow-up he will also be sent a letter providing this information. The Committee also decided that Mr. Disney will not receive a bonus, since the product he provided was not acceptable to the Committee.

At the next CHAC meeting, the Committee will view Dr. Bob Parsons' interview to note information that should be included on the DVD.

Ms. Olmstead expressed to Ms. Hughes that her recommendations to the Committee are appreciated, and thanked her for all of her hard work.

Discussion Regarding Recent and Future Cultural Events

Ms. Olmstead reported that the Cultural Event took place on February 28th and featured Thomas Summer of the Delaware Public Archive Office, and he gave a presentation on Treasures of the Archive. She said that the event went well, and about twenty-five (25) people attended. The people who attended were very enthused to learn about the topic. Ms. Young noted that it was a very educational subject.

The next Cultural Event will take place on Thursday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m. and the speaker will be Tom Ryan, who will give a presentation on "Wives of Generals". Ms. Hughes volunteered to be in charge of purchasing the refreshments for the event. The Committee decided that there will be eight (8) dozen cookies, coffee and iced tea for the event. Ms. Hughes is also going to contact Mr. Summers to see if he needs any particular equipment set up, and she will verify that he has signed and submitted a contract.

The Cultural Event will be advertised in the two local newspapers one week prior to the event, posted around the five (5) places in Town (Town Hall, PNC Bank, Bandstand, U.S. Post Office, and South Coastal Library) and on the front door of the Town Hall, and advertised on the Town's website. Ms. Hughes will create the poster that will be advertised.

Report Regarding Current Projects

- Signs for Museum: Ms. Kinsella presented an image of what the signs will look like. There will be three (3) signs installed. Two (2) on Route 1 and one (1) on Route 26 within the Town limits. The total cost for the sign will be approximately \$523.44. Ms. Young made a motion to approve the three (3) signs from DELDOT for the Museum to be installed in three (3) places within the Town limits for the cost of \$523.44. Ms. McNerney seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.
- Newspaper Articles: Ms. Hughes contacted the Wave Newspaper and found that they have all articles stored dating back to 1990. Copying of the articles is not permitted, but it is possible to take pictures of each article and upload them onto a computer to be printed. Ms. Kinsella and Ms. Urquhart will work on this project.
- Picture Framing: Ms. Olmstead reported that Michael's does not do the type of framing they are seeking and she will check further.
- Ms. Young advised that some signs in the glass case display in the Museum need to be addressed. Ms. Olmstead acknowledged that she already spoke with Ms. Hughes regarding this and this will be done soon.

Ms. Olmstead emphasized that she is impressed that all of the current projects are moving forward to be completed.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lindsey Good, Admin. Secretary