

Olive Branch School Preservation Society
Minutes of the meeting on July 10, 2017

NOTE: Prior to this Board meeting, the trustees welcomed John Landess and Kevin Rose from The Turner Foundation on a 10:00AM walkthrough of the Olive Branch building. Past OBSPS Chairman Bill Berry was also in attendance at the walkthrough. The quarterly OBSPS Board meeting followed in the TLS Board office (in lieu of the scheduled 7:00PM meeting).

The meeting was called to order at 11:15AM by Chairman Jim Leathley. Trustees present were **Jim Leathley, Cyndie Gerken, Sharon Leathley, Peter Scarff, John Sipe, Virgil Studebaker,** and **Howard Stahl.** Guest Connie Sample was also in attendance.

In the absence of Secretary Susan Morgan, Vice Chair Cyndie Gerken called the roll and took minutes. With no questions regarding the minutes of the April 10, 2017 meeting, a motion to approve them was made by Cyndie Gerken and seconded by Sharon Leathley. Motion carried.

Treasurer Sharon Leathley presented a written report that showed a balance of \$8,448.26. This included several membership dues payments and two memorial donations. The postal permit renewal cost was paid with proceeds from the 2016 Della Selsor award. In addition, an invoice for web site updates was paid. There were no questions about the financial report, and it was filed for audit. Sharon reminded trustees of their requirement to pay annual dues.

Under Old Business, Chairman Leathley stated that we have not received any further information from the TLS Board regarding a contract with OBSPS for the Olive Branch building. Also, the 2017 Della Selsor Trust grant application has been completed and submitted.

Under New Business, discussion was held about the earlier tour/meeting with John Landess and Kevin Rose. They are impressed with the unique design and intact condition of the building. One of the suggestions that Mr. Landess offered was that we might consider restoring just one room of the building. In doing so, outside parties could more readily visualize the project and the potential end result. And, being able to see “actual work” completed would (hopefully) induce financial participation. The trustees agreed that we needed to pursue this option. Peter Scarff was asked to share this information with the TLS Board and to ask them to proceed with the removal of the items stored in the room in the southeast corner of the building (has the least amount of storage and is also the most “original” room). Mr. Landess also suggested that college students may be able to do drawings of the building which could be used to obtain estimates for the work that needs to be done. Kevin will contact a Miami University professor with whom they have worked on other projects, including the Westcott House.

Chairman Leathley reminded us that our next Board meeting is October 9th.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Virgil Studebaker and seconded by Jim Leathley. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:40AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Cyndie Gerken, Acting Secretary