

Olive Branch School Preservation Society

Minutes of the Annual Meeting

Monday, October 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Chairman William Berry. Trustees present were William Berry, Cyndie Gerken, Sharon Leathley, Jane Manemann, Susan Morgan, Peter Scarff, John Sipe, Howard Stahl, Ken Strickland, Virgil Studebaker, and ex officio member Brad Martin.

The minutes from the July 14, 2014 meeting had been sent to members in advance and with no additions or corrections at this meeting, the minutes were "approved as received" by the Board. The Treasurer's Report provided by Sharon Leathley showed a balance of \$4,640.37 as of 9/30/2014. Since there were no questions on the report, Mr. Berry directed that the report be filed for audit.

Mr. Berry provided the group with copies of the 2014 OBSPS Annual Report that summarized significant decisions and activities of the group for the past year. There were no questions or additions offered on the report.

Mr. Berry thanked the Board of Education for the removal of the supplies that had been stored outside the Olive Branch School building as it approved its appearance greatly.

Regarding the roof of the building Superintendent Martin reported that they had two quotes, but needed three in order to proceed with a roof repair contract. He also states that there is no roof leak at present. He stated that some shingles had been blown off in a windstorm and it may be an insurance issue in regard to the repair costs.

Mr. Stahl gave the Finance Report and stated that the Finance Committee had not met since the last Board meeting. He had noted that the Westcott House in Springfield had been awarded \$75,000 from an endowment and that hopefully Jan Hillman can help us get some of the money that is available for restorations such as ours.

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business, Cyndie Gerken announced that the Della Selsor Trust grant application had been submitted and any proceeds would be used for the cost of mailings in 2015. Pete Scarff asked how often we have a cost/fee to maintain our 501(c) 3 status, and Mr. Berry responded that it was an annual renewal with a Form 990 that was due within five months of each fiscal year. Our fiscal year starts each Jan 2nd. Term expirations for the Society trustees included Jane Manemann and John Sipe, and Mr. Berry stated that both persons are willing to serve again. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Ken Strickland moved and Howard Stahl seconded that we re-appoint both of the above trustees to another 3-year term. Motion carried. Mr. Berry brought up the fact that per our bylaws, the elected positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman do not have term limitations. The terms are each two years, but there is no limit to the number of terms. If we change this, it would have to be in the form of an amendment to our bylaws. After some discussion the group decided to think about whether any changes needed to be made.

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Monday, October 13, 2014 (cont.)

Under Miscellaneous Business, Mr. Berry mentioned that we still hope to meet with the TLS Board of Education regarding the Olive Branch building. After some discussion on how best to meet, Jane Manemann suggested that we have a special meeting with the Board of Education just to discuss the Olive Branch building and that it would still be open to the public. Virgil Studebaker suggested that the Olive Branch School Preservation Society meet and form an agenda for such a meeting and give it to the Board of Education to preview prior to a special meeting. Both sides could then be prepared for the meeting and hopefully it would be more productive. Mr. Berry suggested that the OBSPS get together with Jan Hillman to form the agenda. The Board agreed. Some discussion was held on what, if any funds were set aside by the TLS Board for upkeep of the Olive Branch building specifically and on the possible use of Capital Improvement Funds on this building by the Board of Education. Superintendent Martin stated that there was no specific amount of money set aside for the Olive Branch building at this time. Mr. Martin also mentioned that the only way a group such as ours could ever own that building (as an option) would be to purchase it at public auction. Lease of the building was discussed and it was generally agreed that it would not be cost effective since we would not have the funds for upkeep and heating, etc. Further discussion included possible uses for the building in the future. Peter Scarff suggested that we have a stated end goal before we approach donors. The Board agreed. Regarding mailings, Mr. Martin stated that we could get the help of students in stuffing envelopes for upcoming mailings.

With no further business Howard Stahl moved and Peter Scarff seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Morgan, Secretary