

AUBURN'S HISTORIC & CULTURAL SITES COMMISSION

Annual Meeting minutes from March 14, 2012 at Harriet Tubman Home

Present: M. Alberici, P. Carter, B. Chabot, A. Fuller, E. McHugh, S. Muldoon, C. Reilley, D. Stankus, M. Traudt, K. Walker

Excused: L. Frank, M. Vanek

Absent: J. Camardo, J. Loperfido

Approval of the Minutes

P. Carter read the Commission's mission and vision statements. A. Fuller made a motion to accept the 2/08/12 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by D. Stankus. **All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Approval of the Treasurer's Report

B. Murdoch reported on expenses since 2/08/12. K. Walker made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by P. Carter. **All were in favor and the motion carried.**

Site Directors

K. Walker reported that the Site Directors met and proposed criteria for the Historic Site Passport Program. P. Carter made a motion to adopt the new criteria. The motion was seconded by D. Stankus. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** The Directors recommended that the Historic Sites be a Spotlight Sponsor for a show at the Merry-Go-Round Theater. E. McHugh made a motion to move forward with Auburn's Historic & Cultural Sites Commission securing a Spotlight Sponsor night for MGR. The motion was seconded by A. Fuller. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** B. Murdoch will contact MGR. Further recommendations by the Site Directors were to start Commission meetings at 9:00am, meet every other month, ensure that agenda items go through the Chairperson, adhere more closely to our By-Laws, and have the Site Directors review any new marketing initiatives.

Marketing Committee

B. Murdoch shared the inquiry stats for the month. She spoke of a possible new initiative with TripAdvisor. We would purchase a month of banner ads appearing on their site to anyone interested in the Finger Lakes region. K. Walker made a motion to move forward with the TripAdvisor advertising opportunity. The motion was seconded by E. McHugh. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** B. Murdoch will secure the contract and let the sites know what information is needed.

Community Outreach

M. Alberici reported that the Passport Program is off to a great start. Many students have been visiting the sites. Prizes will soon be purchased. B. Chabot suggested that the Education Coordinator from the sites go out to the schools and speak to the students in 2013 at the onset of the program.

Unfinished Business

M. Alberici reported that the terms of D. Stankus, S. Muldoon, and herself were up 12/31/11 and all three members agreed to stay on. Don Poole resigned from the Commission as he is unable to attend meetings. B. Chabot suggested that someone from IGNITE take Don's At Large spot. Monika Salvage, Chairperson of IGNITE, was suggested and thought to be a great fit. A. Fuller will ask her if she would be interested. M. Alberici felt that the resolution changing APT's status to Designee would soon be passed. When it passes she will write a letter to APT, telling them of the change, asking who they wanted to represent them on the Commission. With the adoption of the criteria for the Passport to History program, the addition of Seymour Library would be a good fit as they do meet the criteria. B. Chabot made a motion to add Seymour Library as a stop on the 2013 Passport to History Program. The motion was seconded by C. Reilley. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** M. Alberici will notify the Library of their acceptance to the program for 2013. M. Alberici stated that Laurel Auchampaugh has produced additional script for the PODCAST project. Fort Hill has reviewed that material. There are approximately 9 more burial sites that Laurel will be completing.

Arts & Economic Prosperity Study

E. McHugh reported that the collection of data portion of the Study is complete. The results will be released to the press and public on 6/8/12 during the Americans for the Arts annual convention in San Antonio. E. McHugh stated that some of the smaller sites did not fill out the financial information, but would still be put on the master list. B. Murdoch has contacted Randy Cohen to share the study results locally. He will get back to her when he knows his availability and will work to schedule it along with other stops in the Northeast to minimize travel dollars.

New Business

K. Walker made a motion that future Commission meetings would be held every other month, and commence at 9:00 am. The motion was seconded by P. Carter. The Site Directors will continue to meet monthly. B. Chabot made a motion to reinstate M. Alberici as Chairperson, and P. Carter as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded by A. Fuller. **All were in favor and the motion carried.** C. Reilly, previous Vice-Chair, said with her current workload and commitments, she was not in a position to continue in that role. P. Carter thanked her for her efforts. B. Murdoch updated everyone on the progress of the new Auburn's Historic & Cultural Sites web site. She handed out and emailed everyone the description of their site on their landing pages and asked that everyone update the information if necessary and return it to her by 3/26/12.

Announcements

A. Fuller stated that the Chamber would be hosting the State of the City and County luncheon on March 29th from 12-2pm.

K. Walker said there will be a Historic Sites House Tour on 6/6/12. The Shooting Event at Falcon Sportsman's Club will be held again this year. Sunday concerts have been scheduled for the year.

M. Traudt said that the exhibit, "Both Ends of the Rainbow" will be closing soon. The next exhibit, Made in NY 2012 will run from 3/31-5/20. On 3/24/12, they will host a Beer and Cheese Pairing event from 7-9pm.

B. Chabot was pleased to announce that they had their biggest attendance ever at their First Friday event on 3/2/12. It was held in conjunction with IGNITE the Winter Event. B. Chabot applauded C. Reilley for helping to make the IGNITE the Winter Event so successful.

C. Reilley spoke of the success of IGNITE the Winter Event along with some improvements that will be made next year.

P. Carter said that the Harriet Tubman Annual Pilgrimage Event is scheduled for 5/26/12. Restoration is being done on Harriet's home, and the new exhibit in the Visitors Center is just about complete. The new paved driveway is wonderful.

S. Muldoon reminded everyone that "Harriet, The Musical! Journey to Freedom" production is March 23rd & 24th at APT. She was grateful that so many venues were helping to promote the show.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 A.M. by P. Carter. The motion was seconded by A. Fuller. **The next Commission meeting will be held at the Stardust Conference room at 2 State St. on 5/9/12.**

Recorded by Barbara Murdoch