

Lawton Heritage Association
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 13, 2023 – 5:15 P.M.
Historic Mattie Beal Home, 1008 SW 5th St., Lawton, OK

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Time: 5:17 p.m.
Present: Janie Brown, Sylvia Moore, Jim Whiteley, Abby DeBaca, Elizabeth James, Yuri Schendel, Sharon Stephen
Not Present: Mary Jane Jones (excused), Michael Cornish, John Kennedy
2. Minutes – Discuss and take appropriate action on March 2023 meeting
Motion to approve: DeBaca. Second: Stephen. Approved: 7-0
3. President's Report – Brown
The Visitors Center on I-35 between Edmond and Oklahoma City does not have flyers for the Mattie Beal Home. The Oklahoma tourism department needs to be contacted about flyer placement.
4. Treasurer's Reports – Discuss and take appropriate action for approval/submitting for audit
Motion to approve: Moore. Second: Stephen. Approved: 7-0
5. Business – Discuss and take appropriate action.
 - a) Mattie Beal involvement in the Talking Trails program
Amber Follette with the Lawton Public Library contacted Brown for LHA contact information. The Library has received a grant from the Oklahoma Historical Society for an app based tour of the City and would like the Mattie Beal Home to be part of the tour.
Motion to approve participation pending additional information: Schendel.
Second: Moore. Approved: 7-0
6. New Business
7. Old Business
 - a) Vote on New members to the LHA Board: Mary Owensby, to begin in July, and Carol Zabielsk will begin in May
Motion to approve: DeBaca. Second: Stephen. Approved: 7-0
8. Committee/Coordinator Reports – Discuss and take appropriate action.
 - a) Docent Program – Brown
During the docent recruitment event we had six people indicate an interest in volunteering. Three people filled out docent applications, two of which are scheduled for training. Two men took applications with them. Brown talked to a woman with about bringing a group of social science professors for a tour on April 27. They will be visiting several sites. Brown will be there for the tour. The group of 12-13 may need to be split into two

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tours. James commented that Thursday June 8 from 9 to 11 a group from Leadership Lawton will tour the house. She will work that day but may need help.

b) Acquisitions – DeBaca

We got the plaque for John picture in the ballroom. The garage sale will be June 3. If you have anything to donate, we will keep the items in the basement. Larger items can be brought in the week before. We will need help pricing the week of the sale. Schendel found a box with a panorama photo of Lawton's tent city in 1901. DeBaca took it to Kris Gill to restore and frame to match the photos in the foyer. The Acquisitions Committee has funds to cover the cost. Once restored, the original will be donated to the Museum of the Great Plains.

c) Board Development – Moore

Schendel reported the Committee needs to put together a slate of officers to be voted on at the June meeting. We will also need to vote on members who have their terms expiring.

d) Finance – Jones

LHA received the final check from the City of Lawton Hotel/Motel Tax on March 31st. Our 1st check received on February 21st, was \$14,708.61. Our 2nd check was \$3,288.58 and was received on March 31st. The total we received was \$17,997.19. We will soon begin working on our proposal for funds for next year.

e) Events – Jones

Mattie's Easter Party was held Sunday, April 2nd from 1:30 until 3:00. We had a total of 19 guests. Our income was \$90.00. Our expenses were \$58.56. Our profit was \$31.44. We had planned to do a Lunch & Learn with Ricky from Naturescape the first part of May. Ricky has shared that his wife has breast cancer and is taking treatments. He wasn't sure if he would be able to do it but was going to think about it. Jones has tried to talk to him again but is having trouble being able to reach him. The event committee thought it would be best to not schedule anything with him until his wife is better. Whiteley has talked to Morgan Reinart about speaking at a Lunch & Learn.

f) House Maintenance –Schendel

We have lost two more shingles. We are waiting for a proposal from Ford Roofing before submitting a grant for repairs. Schendel cleaned the attic AC filter. The screen door has been fixed. DeBaca has contacted Pat Rooney to fix the light fixture in the master bedroom.

g) Grounds Maintenance –DeBaca

DeBaca reported the roses have been fertilized. Moore repaired the bench on the front porch. The irises from Mattie's house are blooming.

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h) IT Committee – Moore

Jonathan Bennet has made some updates to the website.

i) Marketing – Jones

The Volunteer event was advertised on Facebook, The Lawton Constitution, The County Times, Abby was on KSWO T.V. and a few flyers were posted around. The Easter event was advertised on Facebook, The Lawton Constitution, The County Times, KSWO T.V. came out and took pictures, and a few flyers were posted. On March 21st Karen NesSmith and Jones delivered attraction cards to the hotels.

j) Membership – Whiteley

No report.

k) Preservation – Whiteley

No report.

l) Gift Shop – Brown

No report.

m) Audit – Schendel

The Audit Committee (Schendel, Cornish, DeBaca) met and prepared the 2021-2022 audit to be submitted to the City. The Committee will likely meet in July. The McMahon Foundation now requires an audit for grant applications.

9. Comments/Audience Participation

10. Adjournment. Time: 5:52 p.m.