

Lawton Heritage Association
Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 12, 2024 - 5:15 P.M.
Historic Mattie Beal Home, 1008 SW 5th St., Lawton, OK

1. Call to order and Roll Call. Time: 5:15 p.m.
Present: Abby DeBaca, Sylvia Moore, Mary Jane Jones, JoAnne Gaasbeck, John Kennedy, Mary Owensby, Sharon Stephen, Carol Zabielski
Not Present: Janie Brown, Jim Whiteley (excused), Elizabeth James (excused),
Other: Yuri Schendel
2. Minutes. Discuss and take appropriate action, August 2024
Motion to approve: Kennedy. Second: Stephen. Carried 8-0
3. President's Report – DeBaca
Moore, DeBaca, and Schendel went to the September 11th hearing regarding the lawsuit. No one showed up. According to the judge, the attorneys and the insurance company had talked and were not going to be in court. The attorney for our insurance company is going to petition the court that LHA be removed from the lawsuit since the incident did not happen on our property. The renter does not have insurance. DeBaca asked the judge if we can sell the house while the lawsuit is active. According to him, since the house has nothing to do with the lawsuit, we can sell it. The house will be put on the market within a few days. DeBaca passed out new committee assignments.
4. Treasurers Report. Discuss and take appropriate action for approval and submitting for audit, August 2024
Motion to approve: Gaasbeck. Second: Kennedy. Carried 8-0
5. Business
 - a. Installation of outdoor cameras. Discuss and take appropriate action.
Moore talked to Sooner Security. They recommended 8 cameras to cover every area. With installation it would cost \$4,150.00. There would be a \$45.00 monthly fee. We would be able to access the camera via a phone. There was a concern about the number of cameras. Moore will talk with the company and get a price for fewer cameras. No action taken. The item will be brought back at the October meeting.
 - b. Hiring someone to clean the house on a regular schedule. Discuss and take appropriate action.
DeBaca and Brown met with a woman Stephanie. She has two daughters that help her on weekends. DeBaca explained that we generally do two deep-cleans a year, in January and August. For \$300.00 they will do a light cleaning before our tea party. The deep cleaning in January would be \$600.00. They will provide some of the supplies, we will provide any supplied we prefer to use.
Motion to approve: Moore. Second: Jones. Carried 8-0
6. New Business
No new business.

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7. Old Business

- a. Rent house update. Discuss and take appropriate action.

Discussed in the President's Report.

Jones reported that she had talked to a lawyer in Altus since her name is on the rent house insurance. He does not think there is a problem and will write a letter encouraging Jones and LHA from being removed from the lawsuit. Jones shared rental payments since 2021. The renters currently owe \$800.00 and will owe an additional \$500.00 on September 19.

The renter asked if she could make her payments at the house rather than taking to Mike Cornish. DeBaca told her she could if she paid during our hours of operation. She has not made a payment. The renter will receive a letter letting her know the house is going to be sold.

- b. Roof repair update. Discuss and take appropriate action.

Schendel talked to Jeff Yung at Ford Roofing. He does not have an update. DeBaca expressed concern that the delay will affect the cost of the project. Schendel said that Dana Parrish from the McMahon foundation, suggested we submit an ammendment to our grant application for additional funds if needed.

8. Committee/Coordinator Reports - Discuss and take appropriate action.

- a. Docent Program – Brown/Moore

Moore reported that the man who has been working with her is moving to Kansas.

- b. Acquisitions – DeBaca

No report

- c. Board Development – DeBaca

The Committee will meet on September 18. In October we will need to sign our board agreement and conflict of interest forms.

- d. Finance – Jones

We received a bill from Jonathan Bennett for the website. Jones has sent him an email asking why our tea party flyer has not been posted to the website.

- e. Events – Jones

We have received a lot of interest in the tea party. We have 22 people signed up, not including board members. There was an article about the event in The Lawton Constitution and Cache Times. Jones has sent out flyers and posted to various Facebook pages. The Home Economics teacher at Cache has four girls that will help with tea. They are getting a grade to work at the event. David Anderson, the man who tuned the piano in the parlor, said he knows someone who would repair the organ. It would cost between \$2,000.00 and \$5,000.00 depending on the work that needs to be done.

- f. House Maintenance – Schendel

No report

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- g. Grounds Maintenance – DeBaca
The yard has not been properly watered this summer and many plants have suffered. Anthony Barton checked the sprinkler system. The system is in bad condition. A new system would cost around \$24,000.00. He recommended we repair the system for \$5,000.00. He was paid \$2,500.00 as a down payment. He cannot start the work until October. DeBaca encouraged board members to water when they are at the house. Some, or all, of the roses may need to be replaced next year.
 - h. IT Committee – Moore
Moore will call Bennett about the website.
 - i. Marketing – Jones
Discussed in Events Committee
 - j. Membership – Whiteley
No report
 - k. Preservation – Whiteley
DeBaca reported she and Schendel attended the City of Lawton Cultural Preservation Committee meeting. The committee discussed various CIP projects. A man from COL Parks and Recreation recommended carburetor fluid and a wire brush to clean the graffiti on the house's sidewalk.
 - l. Gift Shop - Brown/Schendel
No report. Zabielski showed a bowl cozy she has made.
9. Comments/Audience Participation
Gaasbeck asked when the third grade program will start. DeBaca said we have not yet heard from Lawton Public Schools. It usually starts in October.
10. Adjournment. Time: 5:55 p.m.