

Lawton Heritage Association
Regular Meeting Agenda
Thursday, October 13, 2022 – 5:15 P.M.
Historic Mattie Beal Home, 1008 SE 5th St., Lawton, OK

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Time: 5:17 p.m.
Present: Janie Brown, Sylvia Moore, Mary Jane Jones, Jim Whiteley, Michael Cornish, Abby DeBaca, Elizabeth James, Yuri Schendel,
Not Present: John Kennedy, Sharon Stephen (excused)
Also Present: Docent Mary McGee.
2. President's Report – Brown
Brown reported we have had quite a few visitors including 15 on a day she worked. The visitors enjoyed themselves and were very interested in the house. The previous week there were 3 groups from the Fort Sill graduation.
3. Treasurer's Reports – Discuss and take appropriate action for approval/submitting for audit.
Motion to approve: Cornish. Second: DeBaca. Carried.
4. Minutes – Discuss and take appropriate action on September meeting.
Motion to approve: Cornish. Second: James. Carried.
5. Old Business – A \$500 check was given to Geary Heilman, the geothermal and HVAC expert who applied his expertise to preparing the Mattie Beal Home for the Fire Marshall inspection. Brown reported Mr. Heilman had received and cashed the check.
6. New Business –
 - The Events Committee has requested approval to spend \$150 - \$200 preparing for the Porch Party at the House on Saturday, October 22. Jones reported the event will be similar to the one held last fall. A hot dog, chili, chips, cookie, and water will be sold for \$5.00. There will be a \$1.00 gate fee. Jones has ordered 12 bales of straw for the event and will store them behind the house before the event. Cornish suggested It may be possible to sell them after the event. The total cost was \$107.91. Jones delivered fliers to several places including the Chamber of Commerce and the farmer's market, will send information about the event to the newspaper and KSWO.
Motion to approve: DeBaca. Second: Moore. Carried.
 - Discuss and consider asking Geary Heilman to be on the Board of Directors. Schendel commented that considering his long service to LHA over 20 years and the high regard in which he is held, we should ask him to serve on the Board. We have a form letter we can send signed by the Board President.
Motion to accept: Schendel. Second: DeBaca. Carried.
7. Committee/Coordinator Reports – Discuss and take appropriate action
 - a. Docent Program/ Docent coordinator
Brown reported a woman who attended the tea was interested in volunteering. Unfortunately, she will be moving to Oklahoma City. She is still interested in volunteering. Brown suggested she get settled in OKC and

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contact us later if she is still interested. Although we are able to fill spaces for volunteers right now, we are going to need help in the spring.

b. Acquisitions – DeBaca

The Laura Fields Trust board had their monthly meeting at the house October 12th. DeBaca and Schendel hosted the group and showed them the house and what we were able to purchase with their grant. They were very happy with what we had done. There was enough money left from the grant to reupholster the Morris chair in the living room. There will still be a little money left for future needs. DeBaca and Schendel talked to Sheila Fountain, manager at Laura Fields Trust, and other board members, about the need to replace the roof of the Mattie Beal Home. Schendel suggested we get a definite price to replace the roof to help with fundraising for the project. We accepted three 1920s era rugs from a woman whose grandmother had purchased them in Germany. The rugs are in the hallway, side entrance door, and in front of the fireplace in the ballroom. The old rugs from the hallway and entry have been moved to the basement. DeBaca also mentioned the granddaughter of Beula and Walter Foster, previous owners of the house, visited. She told stories about visiting her grandparents. DeBaca wrote down the stories she told.

c. Board Development – Moore

Moore reported the committee met on September 15th. There was a discussion of purchasing 250 magnets. The committee has purchased private property signs. Two have been posted. A third will also be posted. The committee suggested giving Helen Jones a lifetime membership as a thanks for her service to LHA. The Board will vote on the recommendation at the November meeting.

d. Finance – Jones

The Committee is considering a new CPA to do our taxes. The Committee will be talking to Krystal Miller.

e. Events – Jones

We made \$11.93 from Mattie's Tea Party. Part of the cost this year was \$230.00 to purchase urns to brew the tea. We had a good turn out with a lot of positive comments. Some people said they come every year and will continue to come. The next event is the porch party. Santa has been booked for a Pictures with Santa event on December 4th from 12:30 to 3:30. Jones has talked to Cathy Costello, widow of Labor Commissioner Mark Costello, about being a speaker for a Lunch and Learn event. Costello does a lot of work on mental health issues and may be able to speak in March. The man from Naturescape would like to do a Lunch and Learn event. They are opening a center where you can buy a pot and do your own planting. He

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would like to do something similar for LHA. The event would possibly be in April.

- f. House Maintenance – Schendel
Two sconces in the ballroom need electrical work. We need a definite cost for a new roof to assist in fundraising. While going through old records Schendel found a CD-ROM with a 2005 episode of Texoma Today with a story on the Mattie Beal home featuring several interviews about the house and renovations. She made two copies of the disk. Schendel gave Whiteley a binder of information from former Board member Paul Fisher to be scanned and printed.
 - g. Grounds Maintenance –DeBaca
The roses have been fertilized for the last time this year. The nuisance bushes in the flowerbeds have been cut down. We may need to contact U.S. Lawns and see if they can remove or kill the bushes. Bermudagrass has taken over the south side of the rose bed. There is a product called Over-The-Top made by Fertilown we may be able to use to kill the bermuda. The deadwood in the crept myrtles needs to be removed.
 - h. IT Committee- Moore
Moore has house photos on a thumb drive to be used in a binder for visitors.
 - i. Marketing – Jones
Previously reported.
 - j. Membership – Whiteley
No report.
 - k. Preservation – Whiteley
The City of Lawton has selected Old Home Rescue to repair the arch at Highland Cemetery. Depending on the temperature, the repairs will take place this fall or next spring.
 - l. Gift Shop – Brown
We have received new aprons.
- 8. Comments/Audience Participation
 - 9. Adjournment. Time: 6:08 p.m.