



Town of Collierville

A regular meeting of the Collierville Heritage Commission was held May 11, 2022 at 5:09pm at the Morton Museum of Collierville History, located at 196 N. Main Street, Collierville, Tennessee.

The following members of the Heritage Commission were present: Taylor Stamps, Skeeter Rutledge, John Moore, Annette Key, Mayor Stan Joyner, Mary Alice Brock, and Betty Edmunds. Absent were Jennifer Cordell, Michael Davidson, Charles Hall, and Ginny Nanney.

Staff members present were Museum Director, Kate Renner and Collections & Special Projects Coordinator, Chandler Tait.

Betty Edmunds called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 12, 2022 and March 9, 2022

Ms. Edmunds asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January 12, 2022 meeting minutes. As there were no corrections or additions, Ms. Edmunds called for approval of the Heritage Commission meeting minutes. Ms. Key made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Mr. Moore seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Ms. Edmunds asked if there were any corrections or additions to the March 9, 2022 meeting minutes. As there were no corrections or additions, Ms. Edmunds called for approval of the Heritage Commission meeting minutes. Ms. Key made a motion to approve the meeting minutes. Ms. Brock seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

MUSEUM REPORT

Ms. Renner shared updates on Museum programming and events that occurred following the previous Heritage Commission meeting.

Ms. Renner stated Story Time continues to take place at the Museum every Friday, 10:30AM. Attendance remains consistent with an average of 12-15 participants. Some of the April Story Time themes included Trains, The Moon, and Spring Has Sprung.

Ms. Renner reported that 15 people were in attendance at the April 14, 2022 Lunch and Learn. The presentation was given by Doug Cupples, adjunct professor of history at CBU, on the historic 'Marriage of the Waters' event which had a profound impact on Collierville and the region at large.

Ms. Renner reported that the Friends of the Museum held their annual membership meeting on April 28, 2022. 30 Friends members were in attendance – a wonderful turn out given that the past two year's

meetings have been held virtually. Business was conducted at the beginning of the meeting, followed by a director's report on the past years events and programs, plus a catered reception with an opportunity to visit with fellow members.

Ms. Renner stated that the board of the Friends of the Museum generously volunteered their time to represent the museum with a table at Fair on the Square (Saturday May 7, 2022). Board members were selling museum merchandise, as well as distributing flyers directing people to walk down the street and visit the museum. The museum offered an art activity and creative play area for young visitors that day.

Ms. Renner reported that the museum's gift shop has now reopened after two years of closure. Items for sale include: tote bags, picnic blankets, museum 10th anniversary mugs, and books. Payment is cash or check only.

Upcoming Events

Ms. Renner stated that May 2022 Story Time themes include Gardening, Bicycles, Who Built It?, and Kites.

Ms. Renner announced that the next SRVS Story Time for adults with special needs will be on June 14, 2022. The theme is Community Helpers.

Ms. Renner announced that the final Lunch and Learn in the Spring 2022 series will be Thursday May 12, 2022. Julie Wilson of TN Garden Clubs Inc will present on the art of floral arrangement. She'll do a demonstration of Japanese vs. American arrangement styles, followed by practical tips for helping at-home arrangements last longer. Ms. Renner noted that Lunch and Learn will break for June/July travel months, then resume with a fall series in August. Fall dates have been published and themes are coming soon.

Ms. Renner announced that on May 24, 2022 at 6:30PM Iris Orchestra will perform a 1 hour evening chamber concert at the museum inspired by the vibrant shapes and colors of seasonal blooms. Following the performance there will be a 30 minute reception with sweet treats and a chance to chat with the musical guests. Event registration has reached the 70 person registration capacity and a waitlist has been started.

Ms. Renner shared that both exhibitions currently on-view will close at the end of May - *Beebe and Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy* and *Five Lakes* in the Community Art Gallery Hallways. Exhibitions opening in June are *In Full Bloom: The Art of Lori Cook* and *Through the Gardener's Lens: Juried Photographs by the Shelby East Garden Club*.

Ms. Renner reported that the 2022 *Morton In Bloom* Flower Show will be on Friday June 10, 1-7pm and Sat June 11, 10AM-4PM. Visitors are invited to enjoy award-winning flower arrangements designed by the Shelby East Garden Club, an art exhibition, and refreshments. This year the submission categories highlight the Morton Museum's 10th Anniversary, which the museum greatly appreciates.

Ms. Renner announced that the museum will host a variety of free, 2-hour workshops for youth and adults in June & July 2022. Registration is now open. Each date highlights a different theme

in Collierville history and includes a hands-on art-making activity. Registration is required and can be completed online by visiting the Programs tab on the museum's website. Currently all four youth workshops have filled, with limited seating remaining in the adult sessions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ms. Edmunds referenced the March 9 meeting minutes for unfinished items of business.

Ms. Renner called for a discussion regarding Town Administrator James Lewellen's request that the Commission identify 2-3 goals for 2022. Two goals were drafted at the March 9, 2022 meeting and Ms. Renner recommended that those goals be finalized by a vote at the present meeting.

Ms. Renner read aloud the first goal drafted at the March 9, 2022 meeting which reads as follows: "In 2022 the Heritage Commission will advocate for the preservation and documentation of historically significant homes, neighborhoods, and churches in Collierville." Ms. Renner asked if there were any corrections or additions needed to finalize this goal

Ms. Edmunds voiced support for approving this goal.

Mr. Stamps asked Mayor Joyner if the Town requires a permit prior to demolishing a residential structure. Mayor Joyner voiced his belief that a permit is only required to demolish homes within the Town's Historic District.

Ms. Edmunds inquired if it would be possible for the Heritage Commission to receive notice of sites approved for demolition so that they can be photographed and documented per the proposed annual goal. Mayor Joyner recommended that a member of the Heritage Commission begin to review the publication of minutes following Historic Commission meetings.

Ms. Renner recommended appointing a member of the Heritage Commission to lead this initiative of raising awareness of structures scheduled for demolition. Ms. Edmunds recommended Mr. Stamps step into this role, as he has connections with members of the Historic Commission. Mayor Joyner recommended Mr. Rutledge assist Mr. Stamps in this endeavor for the same reason.

Ms. Brock asked if Heritage Commission members could be notified via email as Mr. Stamps and Mr. Rutledge's findings are uncovered. Ms. Renner confirmed that if Mr. Stamps and Mr. Rutledge can communicate their findings to her, she'll be happy to distribute the information to the group.

Following this discussion, Ms. Edmunds called for a motion to approve the first annual goal. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Ms. Renner read aloud the second goal drafted at the March 9, 2022 meeting which reads as follows: "In 2022 the Heritage Commission will promote local attendance at Morton Museum events and exhibitions through word-of-mouth marketing by Heritage Commission members in the community.

Ms. Edmunds suggested that mention of social media marketing be included. Ms. Renner agreed that Heritage Commission members sharing the museum's social media posts and events on their social media channels would be an effective way to accomplish goal two.

Mayor Joyner suggested that appointing a Friends of the Museum board member to be a non-voting liaison to the Heritage Commission could be beneficial to both organizations. Mayor Joyner mentioned that this had been done in the past, but that the previous liaison had moved away and no one had stepped in as a replacement.

Ms. Renner stated that she would share this request with the Friends of the Museum at their next board meeting and ask if they are willing to nominate a board member who can attend future meetings of the Heritage Commission starting at the July 13, 2022 meeting.

Ms. Edmunds called for a motion to reinstate a member of the Friends of the Museum board as an ex-officio member of the Heritage Commission. Mr. Stamps made a motion to approve. Mr. Moore seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Discussion returned to the approval of the second annual goal. Ms. Edmunds called for a motion to approve the first annual goal, with the additional mention of social media marketing. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Potential Items for Accession

Ms. Renner presented a Collierville Christian Church commemorative plate (1958) offered for acquisition by Joan Short Walter. The plate was given to her by her deceased mother, Emma Akers Leake Short, a longtime member of the Collierville Christian Church. Ms. Renner made note that a similar commemorative plate is already in the museum's collection, but that the most recent plate offered for acquisition is in much better condition. Mayor Joyner asked if there was a motion to accept the diploma into the Collection. Ms. Edmunds called for a motion to accept this item into the museum's care. Mr. Stamps made a motion to approve. Ms. Brock seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Ms. Tait presented a collection of family photographs and documents offered for acquisition by Walter Hayden, comprised of:

- (1) book, "Ancestors and Descendants and Allied Lines of Medora Virginia Ray" by Carrie L. Davis
- (1) Higbee School of Memphis yearbook
- (1) Davis family tree
- (1) SD card of Davis family history
- (11) photographs, Davis family
- (5) photographs, Davis-Koch family
- (15) photographs, Koch family

Ms. Tait confirmed that Mr. Hayden is the great-grandson of 19th century Collierville residents Charles Robert Davis and Eddie King Davis who are laid to rest in Magnolia Cemetery. Ms. Tait noted that the Davis family home is a historic site currently maintained by the Porters. Ms. Tait provided further research findings verifying strong ties between the Town of Collierville and the Davis family. Heritage Commission members were invited to examine a portion of the objects offered for acquisition. Ms. Tait advised that the Koch family never lived in Collierville, therefore she recommends rejecting the Koch family photographs that do not include a Davis family member. Ms. Renner called for a motion to accept Ms. Tait's list of recommended objects into

the museum's care. Ms. Brock made a motion to approve. Mr. Rutledge seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

Ms. Tait presented a large collection of Collierville Schools educational materials/scrapbooks accompanied by objects related to the Town of Collierville and the Collierville Christian Church offered for acquisition by Mary Alice Brock. Ms. Tait gave an overview of the significance of these items and evidence of their direct connection to Collierville history. Ms. Renner called for a motion to accept Ms. Tait's list of recommended objects into the museum's care. Mr. Stamps made a motion to approve. Mr. Rutledge seconded. All were in favor, none were opposed. Motion was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Edmunds asked if there were any additional items of business to be discussed. Commission agreed that nothing further needed to be addressed at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business or discussion, at approximately 6:06pm, Ms. Edmunds adjourned the meeting.


Mrs. Betty Edmunds
Chairman, Heritage Commission


Kate Renner
Director, Morton Museum of Collierville History