



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, January 20, 2010
Grinter Place State Historic Site
Kansas City, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Arter, Benton, Breidenthal, Clark, Craig, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Ford, Gibson, Jones, Northern, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wood and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Balderson, Cohen, Kemper, Maag, McCoy, and Wagnon.

Joe Brentano, site administrator at Grinter Place State Historic Site welcomed the Board and gave a brief history about the site. Tacha welcomed new board members and attendees introduced themselves.

Benton moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting. The motion was seconded by Tempel and approved.

Jones discussed the financial report and gave an overview of the projected budget. Billings and Jones explained many specific items, including the special projects (restricted), the State Appropriations/grants, the Website development/communications, the Directional Signage, the Map & Tour Project, and the Interpretive Grants Program. Craig and Wood suggested splitting the Website development/communications line item, reflecting the development portion as a programmatic expense and hosting costs as administrative expense. Jones moved to approve the financial report and the budget reflecting the suggested change in the Website development/communications line item and showing the Administrative Expenses as a percentage of the total budget. The motion was seconded by Craig and approved.

Tacha reviewed the current subcommittees list and requested that new members contact her with their subcommittee preferences. She highlighted the importance of the Fundraising committee and requested that the committee put together a plan to address public, private, and foundation support. Craig and Wood volunteered for the Fundraising committee. The name of the Development committee will be changed to Governmental Relations committee to avoid confusion.

Clark, Chair of the Administrative and Planning committee, reviewed new policies for the board. The policies include Whistle Blower/Employee Protection, Conflict of Interest, Audit, and Values Statement. The board discussed the scope of the Conflict of Interest policy. The board discussed the need for a full annual audit. Billings reported that an official audit is not required by the federal government until \$500,000 of federal money is received in a fiscal year. Craig recommended a less formal accounting review. Gibson suggested including statements in the Audit policy to reflect that the Audit committee have primary fiduciary responsibility and the power to obtain and terminate audit services. Gibson



moved to approve the Whistle Blower/Employee Protection policy, the Conflict of Interest policy, and the Audit policy as amended. The motion was seconded by Breidenthal and approved.

The Values Statement was tabled to the next meeting. Clark requested that board members email him suggestions. Jones suggested circulating the Values Statement to a wider group for input before the Board adopts it as policy. Board members signed the Conflict of Interest policy. Signed copies will be scanned and emailed to each board member.

Dillingham, Chair of the Nominating committee, reported on the committee's outstanding requests for Board members. Three nominees for the board are still yet to be contacted or are considering their nomination. Board members were reminded that terms expire on a calendar year basis with the Advisory Committee defining the terms of service for Partnership Liaison Board Members.

In old business, Billings reported that the trademark of the logo and intellectual property application is in process. The management plan has been sent to the National Office of National Heritage Areas for approval, followed by the Secretary of Interior's office. The Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service has been signed.

Billings reported that Destination Management, Inc. is working on a draft of an agreement to manage Freedom's Frontier based on the decision at the August board meeting to accept the DMI proposal. It will closely follow the Cooperative Agreement signed between FFNHA and NPS and is on the agenda for the next DMI Board meeting.

Tacha reported that Freedom's Frontier has a partnership with the Symphony in the Flint Hills to focus the 2011 event on bringing awareness to Freedom's Frontier.

Ramsey reported on the January Interpretation Workshop for partners. She noted that 29 of the 60 attendees were first time attendees and commented on the great benefit that future workshops will have for bringing new partners to the table and providing partners with tools to take home to improve their visitor experience.

The date for the next formal board meeting is February 23 at 3:00pm, in Harrisonville, MO...specific location to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 23, 2010
Historic Cass County Courthouse
Harrisonville, MO

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Benton, Clark, Cohen, Craig, English, Jones, Northern, Ramsey, Tempel, Wood and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Breidenthal, Dillingham, Dunfield, Ford, Gibson, Kemper, Maag, McCoy, Stroup and Wagnon. Carol Bohl was also present.

Tacha called the meeting to order and Wood welcomed the Board to Harrisonville. Carol Bohl, Director of the Cass County Historical Society gave a brief history of Harrisonville and a tour of the historic courtroom.

Wood moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting. The motion was seconded by Ramsey and approved.

Jones, Treasurer, discussed the financial report noting that expenditures in January for workshops are reimbursable by NPS. Tacha acknowledged a gift from the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust for designated projects.

Tacha reviewed the committee list. Cohen asked that another board member be asked to chair the fundraising committee. Wood recommended Stroup indicating that he thought she had expressed interest at the last meeting.

Clark, Chair of the Administrative and Planning committee, reviewed the changes suggested to the values statement. Clark moved to approve the statement. The motion was seconded by Jones. Craig pointed out a typographical error in the second paragraph to be changed. The motion was approved.

Billings reported on the Nominating Committee. There is one vacancy on the Board and two nominations. The committee will discuss how to proceed. Tacha reported that John Carlin, former Governor of Kansas, had been approached but due to other commitments respectfully declined at this time. Clark requested that potential members' names be suggested to the committee at any time. Craig asked about geographical representation. Tacha reviewed the requirements of the enabling legislation.

In old business, Billings reported that the trademark of the logo and intellectual property application is still in process. The management plan has been approved by the NPS Midwest office and sent to the National Office of National Heritage Areas for approval to be followed by the Secretary of Interior's office for signature.



Tacha introduced the agreement with DMI for management services. Jones reviewed the RFP process for management and the selection of DMI as the managing entity. Billings noted that the agreement between DMI and FFNHA reflects the cooperative agreement between FFNHA and NPS. Tempel moved to approve the agreement. Northern seconded the motion. Craig asked for clarification of Section 3. Billings explained that she will not be an employee of FFNHA but an independent contractor, while McPike is an employee of FFNHA. Ramsey asked the term “Board of Directors” in section 6. Tacha explained that changing it to trustees would necessitate a change in the TKHA paperwork and noted that changing to “Board of Trustees” is unnecessary. The motion was approved.

Billings reported about her trip to Washington, D.C. and the Alliance of National Heritage Area meeting. Billings reported about her meetings with the FFNHA congressional delegates and the ANHA platform. She also reported on future funding possibilities. Wood suggested that partner locations and events keep records of attendees, etc. to report in future annual reports. Tacha suggested highlighting cross-border programs.

Craig reported on the February Advisory Committee meeting. Ramsey reported on the February Interpretation Workshop for partners. McPike reported about the status for recent RFPs and FFNHA’s involvement in The Kansas City Public Library’s digitization initiative, *The Missouri-Kansas Border: Where the Civil War Really Began*.

The date for the next formal board meeting is March 23 at 3:00pm, in Manhattan, KS. The May 11 meeting will be held at Lexington, MO.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Leadership Studies Building
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Balderson, Clark, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Gibson, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wood and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Benton, Breidenthal, Cohen, Craig, Ford, Jones, Kemper, Maag, McCoy, Northern, and Wagon. Lindsey Bruns, Cheryl Collins, Olivia Collins, Carrie Faylin, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow and Bob Workman were guests.

Tacha called the meeting to order and Olivia Collins welcomed the Board to Kansas State University and introduced Bruns and Faylin, both students in the Leadership Studies Program.

Gibson introduced Lynn-Sherow, who spoke about programs within the Kansas State University History Department and introduced Workman, director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, a project under development in Manhattan.

Board members and guests introduced themselves and Tacha spoke about the background and goals of Freedom's Frontier.

Stroup spoke about American Humanics and its relationship with the Leadership Studies Program at Kansas State University. Olivia Collins discussed the program and the required internship structure. Tacha proposed to work with an intern from the Leadership Studies Program to create a development plan and explore future internship partnerships between Freedom's Frontier, its partners and colleges and universities within the region. Dillingham moved to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Balderson and approved.

Dillingham moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Wood and approved.

Billings discussed the financial report. Tacha acknowledged a gift from the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust for designated projects saying that these types of earmarked contributions can be helpful in matching federal dollars for general purposes. She encouraged the Board to consider engaging local governments financially. Billings reported on a "Dear Colleague" letter signed by three of our Congressional representatives along with 45 others circulated among Congress to encourage an increase in the National Heritage Area line item in the proposed federal budget. Tacha announced that Stroup and Wood will co-chair the Development Committee.

Dillingham reported that the Donor Edge required a formal policy concerning Board Selection Criteria. Clark drafted the policy and shared it with the Board. Dillingham moved to approve this



policy. Ramsey seconded the motion. Gibson asked if the policy should limit Board membership to the 41 counties instead of the two states or if Board membership could be extended to those that live outside the states of Kansas or Missouri. In discussion, the Board concurred that the 41-county limit would be too prohibitive, especially for officials with the State of Missouri that may live near Jefferson City, while the enabling legislation limits Board membership to Kansas and Missouri. The motion to approve the policy passed.

In old business, Billings reported that the trademark of the logo and intellectual property application is still in process. The management plan has been approved by the NPS Midwest office and sent to the National Office of National Heritage Areas for approval to be followed by the Secretary of the Interior's office for signature. Billings reported that she would travel to Omaha later this week to meet with the Midwest Regional Director of the Park Service and would ask about the status of the management plan.

Ramsey reported on the March 11 Partnership Team meeting and the Advisory Committee meeting in Lexington, Missouri. She discussed the process of the Advisory Committee to review sites that apply to become a Recognized or Star location. Dillingham suggested using site reviews as a public relations tool to help build understanding for Freedom's Frontier and historic sites with local residents and governments. Stroup proposed helping develop a prototype exhibit that connects the stories of two locations. Balderson added that this approach would help sites see the benefits of connecting their stories. Tacha challenged the Board to provide a grant to two sites to create a prototype exhibit. Wood shared an example of the connections that have been discovered between Cass County and Franklin County and could be explored through such a grant.

McPike discussed the status of the map/brochure project and announced that the Orientation Materials Task Force had chosen Jeffrey L. Bruce & Co. to work on the project. She also announced the status of the website redevelopment project.

Temple invited the Board to the next formal board meeting. The meeting will be held May 11 at Lexington, MO.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, May 11, 2010
Battle of Lexington State Historic Site
Lexington, MO

After a tour of Lexington, the meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Clark, Dunfield, Ford, Gibson, Jones, Northern, Stroup, Tempel, Wagnon, Wood and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Benton, Breidenthal, Cohen, Craig, Dillingham, English, Kemper, Maag, McCoy and Ramsey. T. C. Barry, Matt Brillhart, Luther Smith and Bill Wagnon were guests.

Tempel welcomed the Board to Lexington. Guests were introduced. Stroup introduced Brillhart, Director of Community Outreach for the Pryor Center for Leadership Development at William Jewell College. Brillhart spoke about the leadership development program at William Jewell and their partnership with American Humanics.

Tempel moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion was seconded by Dunfield and approved.

Billings discussed the financial report. She noted two expenses, the Kansas Sampler Festival and outreach display. Billings briefly reported on the Sampler Festival and noted that the display can be used at events throughout the area.

Stroup and Wood reported on the Development Committee. Stroup outlined the plans for the committee to develop a strategic plan. She distributed the board donation form and explained that the goal was to have 100% of the Board contribute. Wood discussed the need to have a deed of gift policy. He asked the Board to consider this policy and tabled the issue until the June meeting. The Board also discussed earmark gifts. They will consider a policy for earmark gifts at the next meeting. Billings and McPike will work on a "licensing fee" or "affiliation fee" policy to discuss the financial responsibility of sites that receive benefits, such as listing in a brochure or website, from Freedom's Frontier.

Billings reported that Imagemakers, Inc. of Wamego, Kansas, had been selected by the Technology Committee and approved by the Advisory Committee to contract with Freedom's Frontier on their website redevelopment project.

Billings reported about the "Dear Colleague" letter circulated in the House and Senate to increase the line item for heritage areas.

In old business, Tacha reported that the management plan approval is still being processed. Billings reported that the trademark of the logo and intellectual property application has been approved.



McPike reported on the April 8 Partnership Team meeting in Topeka, Kansas. She also noted that a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee, with the input of the Partnership Team, have been working on a tagline for Freedom's Frontier.

Billings reported on a meeting with Jeffrey L. Bruce & Co. to begin work on the map/brochure project and funding that has been received for the website redevelopment project. The Board discussed a proposed cell phone-based project to connect the area. McPike reported that she will be meeting with Symphony in the Flint Hills to plan for the 2011 event in Wabaunsee County.

The next formal board meeting will be held June 22 at Lawrence, KS.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, June 22, 2010
The Golden Ox
Kansas City, MO

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Breidenthal, Clark, Cohen, Craig, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Ford, Maag, Northern, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wood and Judy Billings, Lyndsay Bruns and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Benton, Gibson, Jones, Kemper, McCoy and Wagnon.

Dillingham moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion was seconded by Dunfield and approved.

Craig, McPike and Ramsey reported on the June Partnership Meeting.

Stroup and Wood reported on the Development Committee. Stroup distributed the board donation form and explained that the goal was to have 100% of the Board contribute and introduced Lyndsay Bruns, the Development Committee Intern. Wood reported that the deed of gift policy was being reviewed by the Policy Committee. He also reported on the earmark policy and discussed fundraising goals. The Board discussed transportation enhancement funds as a potential source of funding for signage. Craig is investigating this funding source. The Board also discussed grantwriters.

Billings discussed the financial report. She noted two revenues that will be included in next month's financial report: \$10,000 was received from MARC for a signage plan and \$5,000 was received from the Southeast Kansas Prosperity Foundation for the website.

Billings reported that we are close to signing an agreement with Imagemakers, Inc. of Wamego, Kansas, for website redevelopment project.

Dillingham reported on meetings between himself and Billings with representatives from Senator Bond and Senator McCaskill's in-state staff and the upcoming meeting with Brian Burnes, a *Kansas City Star* staff writer who has shown a great deal of interest in FFNHA.

Tacha reported on the progress of a City of Lawrence project to renovate the former Carnegie Library building to provide a space for a Lawrence-focused Freedom's Frontier exhibit and an office headquarters for FFNHA.

Billings reported about the upcoming International Heritage Development Conference in Charleston, South Carolina, which she and McPike will attend. She noted the likelihood of the federal government moving into FY11 with a Continuing Resolution which would mean the funding for National Heritage Areas remains the same as in 2010.



Ramsey noted the difficulty of communicating the potential for economic development through Freedom's Frontier at presentations to city councils, county commissions, etc. McPike will work on a fact sheet that helps to address this gap.

The next formal board meeting will be held August 17.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, August 17, 2010
Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop and Farm
Olathe, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Benton, Breidenthal, Clark, Craig, English, Gibson, Henry Fortunato for Kemper, Maag, Ramsey, Stroup, and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Balderson, Cohen, Dillingham, Dunfield, Ford, Jones, McCoy Northern, Tempel, Wagon and Wood.

Alexis Woodall welcomed the Board to Mahaffie. Board members introduced themselves to Fortunato who will be serving on the board as a surrogate from Crosby Kemper.

Tacha announced that Clark Balderson has resigned from the Board and encouraged Board Members to consider a replacement for Balderson. Tacha also announced the upcoming move of the Freedom's Frontier office to the renovated Carnegie Library building in Lawrence and progress on an exhibit, funded by the City of Lawrence, which explores Lawrence's place in Freedom's Frontier. Tacha also discussed plans for next year's Symphony in the Flint Hills.

Ramsey reported on the July Advisory Committee Meeting. She noted that the Advisory Committee is working on the tagline, site visits for the Locations & Events Program and filling vacancies on the committee. She relayed a conversation from the meeting about Governor Parkinson's comments during the Symphony in the Flint Hills. She noted that the Advisory Committee wished the Board would address the issue, as Tacha had already discussed. The Committee will also ask Michael Stubbs to discuss plans with the partnership at an upcoming Partner's Meeting.

Ramsey also reported the Advisory Committee's recommendation to fully fund a grant request from the Kansas Humanities Council. Stroup made a motion to approve the grant. Clark seconded the motion. Discussion followed and the motion passed.

Stroup reported on the Development Committee meeting. Response to board solicitation is at 80%. Stroup discussed priorities for funding and the board approved the Restricted Giving Policy.

Billings discussed the financial report. She also noted that the 990 form is complete.

Billings reported on progress on the map and website project. She also updated the board about advertising in the Missouri and Kansas Travel Guide.

The board cancelled the September meeting.

The next formal board meeting will be held October 26 in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Meeting was adjourned.



Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
Carnegie Building
Lawrence, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Benton, Breidenthal, Clark, Craig, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Ford, Henry Fortunato for Kemper, Jones, Maag, Northern, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wagnon and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Cohen, Gibson, McCoy and Wood. Guests present were Tim McKee, Andy Thompkins, Jamie Hunt, Dr. Kermit Wedel, Kathy Wedel, Evan Meyers, Christopher Powers, Steve Coen, all representatives from the Kansas Health Foundation; a guest of Emanuel Northern and Ann Rosenthal, Dan Rosenthal, and Bill Wagnon.

Tacha welcomed the Board and guests to the Carnegie Building. Steve Coen, President of Kansas Health Foundation announced that in recognition of her 18 years of service, the Kansas Health Foundation was making a donation of \$25,000 to the non-profit of Tacha's choice. Tacha thanked the Foundation, recognized its Board and staff, and presented the donation to the Freedom's Frontier Board.

Tacha explained the history of the Carnegie Building and its evolution to becoming the new office for Destination Management, Inc., the Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau and Freedom's Frontier. Dillingham moved to write a letter of thanks to the City of Lawrence for the investment in the building and future exhibit. Stroup seconded and the motion passed. Tacha led the Board and guests on a tour of the renovated Carnegie Building and explained drawings of an exhibit designed to broadly interpret the three themes of Freedom's Frontier. The exhibit is being paid for by the City of Lawrence and will have examples of Lawrence heritage that reflect events throughout FFNHA. The goal is that the exhibit will then inspire visitors to explore other sites in FFNHA.

Temple moved approval of the June minutes. Benton seconded and the motion passed.

Craig reported on the October Partnership meeting in Bates County and explained site visits and the reasons for them. She reported that the Advisory Committee added two new members, Scott Vieira, Johnson County (KS) Libraries and Jack Landers, Johnson County (MO) Historical Society.

Billings gave the Board copies of the annual report to NPS/ANHA and the November financial report. She noted that Sue Pridemore and Marty Sterkel from the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service would attend the March meeting to discuss federal funding and address other questions we may have. Billings presented and commented on the 2011 proposed budget. She noted the need for additional staff. Craig commented the need to balance work on the heritage area as a whole and assistance to partner sites in the form of grants. Wagnon moved to approve the 2011 proposed budget. Breidenthal seconded and the motion passed.



Dillingham presented a report from the nominating committee. He noted that board members whose term expire at the end of 2010 agreed to serve another term. Three vacancies exist on the board. Letters inquiring about interest in serving on the board have been sent to Representative Ike Skelton, Diane Cleaver and Carol Marinovich. Dillingham noted the need to make sure all general areas and all “concepts of freedom” were represented on the board. He asked for suggestions for representation from the Junction City/Manhattan area. Craig suggested Betty Knight as a possible Platte County, MO-area member. Connie Banwart of Fort Scott, Kansas agreed to serve on the board pending election. Dillingham moved to elect Connie Banwart to the board for a three-year term. Clark seconded and the motion passed. Dillingham moved to retain the Executive Committee for another term. Clark seconded and the motion passed.

Stroup reported on the Development Committee’s work for 2010. As of the December meeting, board participation was at 90%. Stroup shared an end-of-the year letter to be send to donors and partners via email to report on the year’s accomplishments and solicit donations. The committee will take no further action on a deed of gift policy, having been advised by the Administrative Committee that there is no need for one. Stroup moved to approve the Restricted Giving Policy. Breidenthal seconded and the motion passed. Stroup moved to approve the Partnership Fundraising Policy. Fortunato seconded and the motion passed.

Billings reported on progress with the map project. Craig volunteered to solicit bids for printing to add to the four already in hand. Billings also gave a summary of a conference call about the new director of the National Park Service and the Park Service’s program legislation for National Heritage Areas.

The meeting was adjourned to a joint dinner with the FFNHA board and the Kansas Health Foundation board at Judge Tacha’s home.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held in St. Joseph, MO with NPS Midwest Regional representatives as guests.