



MINUTES: Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, June 13, 2018; 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Black Archives of Mid-America in Kansas City
Kansas City, Missouri

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Benton, Chair. Present were Ms. Barker, Ms. Barnes, Ms. Buhr, Ms. Caskey, Ms. English, Mr. Ford, Mr. Glasscock, Mr. Glenn, Ms. Hunkeler, Mr. Nevius, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pfautsch, Gen. Scott, Mr. Smith, Mr. Tempel, Mr. Wagnon, Mr. Wulf, and Ms. Woodall. Mr. Wood called into the meeting.

Absent were Ms. Craig, Mr. Crow, Mr. Harris, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rankin, and Ms. Thellman.

Staff members attending included Mr. Ogle, Mr. Pickert, Ms. Ray, and Ms. Smith.

Kansas City resident Mr. Marvin Robinson attended the meeting.

Mr. Benton called the meeting to order.

Ms. Geri Sanders, the Archivist at the Black Archives welcomed the group to the archives, and gave a brief history of the building and archives. Portions of the building were constructed in 1906 and 1912. The building was a maintenance facility for The Parade Park, and is a Jackson County Park + Recreation building. The Black Archives acquired the building in 1974.

Collections include more than 400 of Alvin Ailey's notebooks. Though a tour was originally scheduled for the Freedom's Frontier Board of Trustees, Ms. Sanders said that would not be possible today. The new exhibition, *For All the World to See*, a National Endowment for the Humanities exhibit is being installed. It opens on Saturday, June 16, and will run through Saturday, August 11. She invited the trustees to come to the opening, or to take a tour of the archives at their convenience on another day.

Mr. Ogle introduced Mr. Robinson to the board. He recognized Marvin for being a faithful partner to Freedom's Frontier, and for his efforts to keep the Quindaro Townsite from becoming a landfill, and to further the efforts to elevate Quindaro to National Historic Landmark.

Mr. Robinson acknowledged the efforts of the trustees to preserve Quindaro, and thanked them.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Hunkeler moved to approve the April 2018 minutes. Mr. Glasscock seconded the motion, which passed.

Financial Report: Mr. Wulf gave the financial report. Mr. Glasscock moved approval of the report. Mr. Nevius seconded the motion, which passed.



Board Chair Report: Mr. Benton reviewed the committee list with attendees.

Fundraising/Resource Development Committee: Mr. Wood, speaking to the group by phone, commented on the written report of the friends stewardship process for the attendees. Mr. Ogle spoke briefly about the contact management system already in use by staff that would allow for sending emails to prospective donors. The committee will review this process in an upcoming meeting.

Marketing & Outreach Committee: Mr. Pfautsch estimated that the elevator speech drafts, and more information on next steps for the marketing efforts should be ready for board review in 30-45 days. Mr. Wood commented that there will be an overview in an upcoming meeting of how the development and marketing efforts will work together.

Staff Reports: Mr. Ogle reminded the trustees that Ms. McPike and Mr. Slauderbach are in Washington D.C., on business of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA), of which Ms. McPike is a board officer. Mr. Szlauderbach is employed by both Freedom's Frontier, and the ANHA.

Mr. Ogle also said that representatives from National Heritage Areas would join Freedom's Frontier at the Carnegie Building on Monday and Tuesday, June 25-26, for a Midwest Heritage Area Sustainability Workshop.

He encouraged the trustees to take advantage of the upcoming American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) annual conference to participate as volunteers at the Freedom's Frontier booth, or by attending sessions. Freedom's Frontier is one of the major sponsors of this event. He will provide more information in July. The AASLH conference is September 26-29. At least eight of the twelve tours during the conference are tied to the heritage area and partners.

The next partnership meeting will be Thursday, July 12, at the Banner Creek Science center and Observatory in Holton, Kansas. Mr. Ogle said that on the agenda is a discussion of working together to create touring exhibitions to share. He said partners have conveyed that they are always happy to see trustees at the partner meetings, and encouraged the board members to attend.

Over the next few weeks, Mr. Ogle will work with staff to introduce some new elements to the weekly *Monday Minute* emailed newsletter. Articles will focus on new partners, VIPs (Very Important Partners), and recognizing volunteers at partner sites.

There was a brief discussion about the Quantrill Symposium scheduled for August 2019 in Lawrence, Kansas. Two book title suggestions mentioned as resources about Quantrill are *Quantrill's Thieves*, by Joseph K. Hauts, Jr., and *Inside War*, by Michael Fellman.

In his staff report, Mr. Pickert quickly reviewed the printed report of the toolkit for wayfinding signage. Suggestions for improving the toolkit included adding information about the economic



benefits from driving tourism to historic sites, and case studies that would help in estimating signage costs.

Ms. Ray's staff report focused on summer youth camps, which began on Monday, June 4. Camps are visiting sites that have not had an opportunity to participate in this program before, and that may have lower attendance than other partner sites. Two organizations are working with the Youth Camps program for the first time this year; in addition to Boys and Girls Clubs, the Front Porch Alliance, and the Juneteenth Organization also are participating. She shared examples of the camp journals that participants complete. Around 200 children will participate in camps this summer.

Ms. McPike submitted a written report on the marketing profiles of visitor audiences that staff, partners, and trustees have been working to create and prioritize. There will be more about these efforts at a future meeting.

New Business:

Mr. Wagon asked that trustees assist with recruiting at least six new board members. Numbers are down three from last year, and three more will rotate off the board at the end of this year.

Mr. Ogle mentioned that the Bylaws Committee, chaired by Ms. Craig, would have proposed changes for the full board's review soon.

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sonia Smith for Deborah Barker, Board Secretary