

MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE MUSEUM
101 Monroe Street, Mansfield, La.

STATE GOVERNING BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING

Thursday July 28th, 2016 – 1:30 PM

Members Present: Candie Cox, Glenda Erwin, John Freeman, Carolyn Huckabay, Raymond Powell, Judson Rives, Jack Sibley, Sandy Spaulding.

Members Excused: Ellen Abbington, Beverly Bedsole.

Staff: Van Reech, Jr. – Museum Director

The quarterly meeting of The Mansfield Female College Museum State Governing Board met in regular session on Thursday, July 28, 2016 at 1:30pm. There were 8 members present (including 1 new member) and 2 members excused.

Raymond Powell called the meeting to order and John Freeman led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance with Judson Rives leading in prayer.

The minutes from the April 14, 2016 meeting were read by Van Reech and accepted as read motioned to accept by Jack Sibley, seconded by Judson Rives. The motion was approved.

Mr. Powell introduced new member Glenda Erwin and he discussed the history and duties of Board members. He reported that Mr. Wayne Waddell and Assistant Mr. Rodney Clements were excused because they had no new information on the State closures of museums. He introduced Mr. Reech as the new Director of the Female College Museum to replace Barbara Valentine.

In his Building and Grounds report Van Reech told the Board that he and Dudley Glenn had visited with the Desoto Parish Sheriff, Rodney Arbuckle, who assured us that although the previous Deputy, "Nubbin" Boyd, had retired the Department would continue to mow and maintain our grounds.

In the Repairs Needed Report Mr. Reech reported that the State Fire Marshall had found two of our exit signs were malfunctioning as was our Fire Alarm system. Mr. Reech contacted First Alert to repair our alarm system and recertify it. Mr. Reech also replaced the two dead batteries in the exit signs.

Also in that report Mr. Reech updated the Board on negotiations with CLECO to remedy the rate problem they had assigned the Calhoun Center. After a suggestion by Judson Rives an additional meter was installed (by CLECO and assisted by Mr. Billy McElroy and Mr. Stewart) the Center's usage is staying below the 5000 Kilowatts mandated (avg 3300 Kwh). Sandy Spaulding followed up with a question about CLECO's merger with McQuarry and Mr. John Freeman discussed the progress on that. Mr. Jack Sibley inquired about any rebate that may be expected and Mr. Freeman didn't think so.

A damaged dormer window pane had caused a bad leak in the South Parlor ceiling but was repaired by Mr. Raymond Stewart and Mr. Reech. Mr. Powell asked that Mr. Stewart be commended for his volunteer work.

In the Marketing Report Mr. Reech reported that the Museum was now averaging 35 people a week and 426 for the quarter mainly due to cooperative meetings with groups attending the Calhoun Center and contact with civic groups. Mrs. Spaulding commended Mr. Reech for the improved figures and effort and told the Board that we had been averaging 5 to 6 people per week before. Mr. Sibley suggested Mr. Reech contact the School Board or Superintendent to get listed in next year's schedule and information on Home School groups.

In the New Business Report Mr. Powell suggested a need existed for more displays that would interest young boys or men attending the Museum such as an agricultural machinery display. Mrs. Spaulding suggested an interactive display on picking and ginning cotton. Mrs. Glenda Erwin believes that including the timber industry would entice such companies as G.P. or I.P. to invest or donate grant money. She believes that if we offered to name the room after some such industry we could get more industries interested.

There were no announcements and a motion was made by Judson Rives to adjourn and seconded by Jack Sibley. All those in favor were to rise and exit. We all did and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Van Reech, Jr., Museum Director