

**MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE MUSEUM
STATE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015 – 1:30 PM**

Members Present: Ellen Abington, Beverly Bedsole, Riemer Calhoun, Jr., John Freeman, Carolyn Huckabay, Johnny McFerren, Raymond Powell, Jeannie Rogers and Sandy Spaulding.

Members Excused: Beverly Bruce, Britney Green and Judson Rives

Staff: Barbara Valentine

The quarterly meeting of the Mansfield Female College Museum State Governing Board met in its regular session Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 1:30pm at the museum. There were nine members present out of twelve.

Mr. Raymond Powell, President, called the meeting to order. Mr. John Freeman led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mrs. Carolyn Huckabay led the board in prayer.

Since Mr. Wayne Waddell, Administrator of the Northern Region of Museums, was unable to attend Mr. Powell asked Mrs. Barbara Valentine to give an update on the recent lay offs scheduled for April 10, 2015. Mrs. Valentine reported that all museum personnel will be laid off April 10th with some able to report back to work part time April 13th. The Secretary of State has agreed with Mr. Waddell that the MFCM will operate on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 12 til 4pm. That would allow the museum to be open two (2) afternoons and not just one day a week. Ms. Valentine stated that she was okay with this arrangement until we find out what the legislature comes up with during the upcoming session concerning the budget.

Mr. Waddell had sent Mr. Powell a copy of the Cooperative Agreement that would keep the museum open as is until the end of the FY- June 30, 2015. However, the Friends Group would have to send a check for \$6,500 to the State by April 10th. Mr. Dudley Glenn, President of the Friends, through the efforts of Mr. Van Reech had approached the DeSoto Parish Tourist Commission for a donation to help the Friends with expenses of the museum. They do not meet until April 14th so they will not be able to get a decision before April 10th. Therefore Mr. John Freeman made the motion that we recommend to the Friends that they disregard the Cooperative Agreement at this time until we see what the legislature decides to do about this in the legislative session starting April 13th. Mrs. Sandy Spaulding seconded and the board was in agreement. Since the final decision rests with the Friends Board concerning any monies that might be needed to help with the finances of the museum Mr. Powell will take this recommendation to them at their next meeting, April 16th. He will also recommend that the Friends take donations and place them in a separate account to have to pay bills for the museum only and build on this account from those who wish to donate.

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If the Tourist Commission donates any monies to the Friends these funds will also be put in an account for the museum only and other donations will help build this account up to have ready for the next fiscal year.

Mrs. Huckabay made the motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting, January 8, 2015. Seconded by Mrs. Jeannie Rogers and the minutes were approved by the board.

Renovations on the museum are complete, the building and grounds are being taken care of the by Sheriff's Department and starting July 1, 2015 they will also take care of the flower beds. Construction on the drive to the entrance off Monroe Street should be completed in the next two weeks so the asphalt can be ordered and the DeSoto Parish Police Jury will be in charge of spreading and that will complete this project.

The meeting would not be complete without thanking Mrs. Powell for the wonderful refreshments that she provides for our meetings. Thank you so much Mrs. Evelyn for all that you do. We appreciate you.

There being no further business the motion was made by Mr. Freeman, seconded by Mrs. Ellen Abington to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted.


Barbara Valentine, Director

Next Meeting – July 2, 2015