

**MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE MUSEUM
101 MONROE STREET
MANSFIELD, LOUISIANA 71052
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2013
2:30PM
381-871-9978**

Members Present: Riemer Calhoun, Jr., John Freeman, Carolyn Huckabay, Raymond Powell, Sandy Spaulding and Jeannie Rogers

Members Excused: Ellen Abington, Beverly Bedsole, Beverly Bruce, Britney Green and Judson Rives

**Special Guest: Mary Durusau, Business Manager/State Archives – Baton Rouge
Marcia Calhoun, Treasurer – Friends of the MFCM**

Staff: Barbara Valentine, Director

The State Governing Board of the Mansfield Female College Museum met at the museum in Mansfield on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 2:30pm for its regular quarterly meeting.

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

The minutes of the January 10th and Special Called Meeting of March 5, 2013 were reviewed by the board. Mr. John Freeman made the motion to accept the minutes of both meetings as printed and Mrs. Sandy Spaulding seconded the motion. Minutes approved as printed.

Special guest, Mrs. Mary Durusau, was introduced by Mr. Powell. Ms. Durusau presented the board with plans that Mr. Wayne Waddell had sent from the Architect, Mr. Wayne Coco as Mr. Waddell could not be at the meeting. She gave an update on the progress of the renovation of the museum scheduled to start no later than June 3rd. Plans are to remove the garage and current driveway, re-point the brick foundation and paint the museum the same as the Clista A. Calhoun Center. Also the main entrance to the museum will be off Louisiana Street complete with covered handicapped ramp to the new entrance.

Also Ms. Durusau told the board that the monies for the renovation had been turned over to the Facility Planning Committee assuring the board that the funds are safe and will not be lost at the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. Valentine reported that as of July 1, 2013 the DeSoto Parish Police Jury and the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Department will be taking care of the grounds saving the State around some \$3,000. Also much discussion was held concerning the prospect of getting some new landscaping done. Plans are to bring some ideas to the next meeting.

**The Clista A. Calhoun Center has really generated a lot of attention to the area. Ms. Durusau stated that when she was at the Water Works Museum in Shreveport Mr. Gary Fox
Minutes April 11, 2013 Cont'd**

told everyone they should go to Mansfield and see how beautiful the Clista C. Calhoun Center has been restored. Ms. Huckabay stated that she had established the Clista A. Calhoun Fund in the Community Foundation of NW Louisiana. Paula Hickman, Director, joined last fall when several people joined me in making initial donations. The Advisory Group is five of the larger donors, including 2 members of the Calhoun Family and a member of the Friends Board. Once a year this group will recommend to the Community Foundation a project that we need funded and if the project falls within the original guidelines, they will send a check to the Board of the Friends. The first of its kind for any project outside Caddo Parish. Also the State Governing Board has recommended the Clista A. Calhoun Center for the 2013 Preservation of the Year Award. Several letters, videos and newspaper articles were sent to support the Center for this award. Mrs. Spaulding stated that we should be hearing something in about 2 or 3 weeks.

Much discussion with much enthusiasm was held concerning ways to make the museum more attractive. Such as self-guided tours, audio tours, etc. Several had videos of family members on the history of the museum and DeSoto Parish. Ms. Durusau told the board to get these ideas to her and she would consult with the Secretary of State's Office to see what could be done to further enhance the museum. Things are beginning to happen for the Mansfield Female College Museum .

Mr. Powell introduced our newest member of the board , Ms. Jeannie Rogers from Grand Cane. Ms. Rogers was welcomed by everyone and Mr. Powell told of the long history and connections of the Rogers Family to DeSoto Parish.

There being no further business the motion was made by Ms. Spaulding to adjourn and seconded by Mr. Freeman. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Valentine, Director

Next meeting July 11, 2013