

The Governing Board of the Spring Street Historical Museum met at the museum at 12:00 on January 10, 2017 with Susan Hardtner presiding. Members present were Gary Joiner, Stacy Brown, Elizabeth Ersoff, Conway Link, Robert Crawford, Liz Swaine, Susan Cage, Charlotte Walter, Neil Johnson and Pearla Despot. Also present were Maura Pugh, president of the Shreveport Colonial Dames, Tracy Pressly, chairman of the Friends of the Spring Street Museum, Dale Ward from the Water Works Museum, Dr. Cheryl White of LSU-Shreveport and Marty Loschen, curator of the museum.

Copies of the minutes of the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were distributed.

On September 15, 2016 Tom Schedler, Secretary of State, met at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum with the Spring Street and Water Works boards and said that on December 31, 2016 the state would go out of the museum business. Subsequent efforts were made to contact Billy Nungesser, Lieutenant Governor, who had indicated that he might be able to help. He advised the museums to take any available alternatives.

In December, Liz and Susan Cage from Spring Street and Conway, Dale and Paul Williams from Water Works, met with Mayor Ollie Tyler. She said the city could offer no monetary aid. They asked her to contact the Secretary of State on our behalf. The result was a Memorandum of Understanding which extended the cut-off date to February 28, 2017 with the understanding that the museums will reimburse the state for their expenses, estimated at \$1,500.00 for Spring Street and \$1,000.00 for Water Works. Also, they required the right to audit the "Friends" books. It was agreed that there was no choice but to accept. Since an act of the Legislature was needed for the state to take over the museum, the board will insist that a legislative bill be enacted to return it to the Dames. This is estimated to take several months.

Gary and Cheryl proposed a plan for LSU-S to get involved with the museum. They have been seeking a downtown presence. Susan talked to Chancellor Larry Clark and he was open to the idea. Gary and Cheryl have been asked to pursue the project. They will approach other department heads about using the building. Gary met with the strategic planning group. After touring the building, it was declared "an elegant solution." Kathy Singleton will look into possibilities of classes and internships. There will be a need for long-range budget planning and a strong and active "Friends" group. Liz proposed a "Plan B" subcommittee be formed to identify potential users and co-funders of the museum. Also, the website need updating.

Marty presented a detailed report listing ownership of the computer and communications hardware in the museum, status of the collection inventory files, and the repairs he has made to the building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Pearla Despot

# Directors' Report

## Computer and Communication Hardware collection information

**State owned hardware includes:** 2 desktop computers (with blank hard drives), 1 computer monitor, 1 laptop computer, 1 Dell WYSE thin client, and 1 Ethernet box.

The security system hardware includes: 1 Honeywell router and power converter with backup power box.

**Hardware being used owned by Marty Loschen:** 2 cordless phones, 1 color printer, 1 monitor being used with the security system, and 1 monitor being used with state owned WYSE thin client.

**Hardware owned by the Colonial Dames:** 5 touchscreen computers being used with exhibit, 2 touchscreen computers in reserve, and 1 touchscreen computer being used to run Past Perfect Museum software, 2 flat screen TVs being used with exhibit, and 1 older model flat screen TV and 1 DVD player in reserve.

## Repairs

Installed low heat LED bulbs in the china cabinet

Bids to re-point the brick mortar in the basement were both over 100K, FEMA money won't cover any of the costs

I have done most of the critical parts myself using the Department of the Interiors treatment methods and mortar mix guide.

One of the brick column supports was damaged by the city during the water main break a few weeks ago. I figured that we need the city on our side right now, so I just fixed it myself.

If and when we find a partner, the roof needs to be patched so I can repair the ceiling and plaster.