

The Governing Board of the Spring Street Historical Museum met at the museum August 14, 2013 at 1:30p.m. Gary Joiner presided. Members present were Vivian Andrews, Susan Cage, Elizabeth Ersoff, Shelita Hooey, Conway Link, Liz Swain, Charlotte Walter, Pearla Despot and Libby Siskron, representing the Friends of the Spring Street Museum.

Charlotte reported that Larry Milford is the new designer of our permanent exhibit. Previously he worked on the Dorcheat Museum. Mary Durusau, our liaison with the Secretary of State's office, participated in this decision. We should have a master plan in six weeks. Also, we need a comprehensive plan for the proposed technological components. Shelita will contact Ricky Jones and Christine Gremillion who oversee Caddo Parish School technology.

Charlotte has applied to the Noel Foundation for a grant of \$10,000.00. The Rotary Club grant was denied. The DAR Foundation has given us a grant of \$10,000.00 to be matched by the Shreveport Colonial Dames. Also, the Dames have voted an additional \$50,000.00.

The water problem in the basement has increased. The city tested and declared it is not from a broken pipe but from runoff around the building. Mary Durusau is working on funding to solve this problem, repair the balcony and stabilize the French drains. Liz suggested that, as the buildings next door and across the street have the same situation, we might combine efforts to remedy it.

Marty Loschen, Museum Director, reported an upturn in visitors interested in the paranormal activities at the museum. Michael Allen and Deonna Sayad, investigators for La. Spirits, have contacted a spirit who gave them his name, was able to turn a flashlight on and off (twice), and identified Marty as director. There were six witnesses to this demonstration. Later, Michael set up equipment which recorded 48 hours of video and sound. Liz proposed that we team up with a reputable paranormal group and plan events several times a year. We could sell tickets and divide the proceeds.

Marty reported he has installed gas flicker bulbs in the outside fixtures and is updating our Facebook page. National Geographic has added the museum to its Geo-Tourism website and we are already getting visitors who saw it there.

Vivian stated there is a movement afoot to raise ad valorem taxes on downtown properties, the money to be divided among downtown cultural organizations.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Pearla Despot
Recording Secretary