

Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting  
Tuesday, May 6, 2008  
Shawnee Indian Mission State Historic Site  
Fairway, Kansas

The meeting was called to order by John Dillingham, Vice Chair. Present were, Dillingham, Gibson, Breidenthal, Dunfield, Northern, Clark, Rolfs and Billings. Absent were Tacha, Arter, Balderson, Maag, McCarthy, Jones, Wagnon, McCoy and Kemper.

Dillingham recognized that our chair, Judge Tacha, was absent due to visiting family to tend to her new grandmother duties. He also welcomed Chuck Curtis and Mary Cohen as new members of the board. Curtis is recently retired from Valentine Radford Advertising Agency, an M.U. graduate and originally from St. Louis. Cohen is the wife of Bart Cohen, a founding member of this Board of Trustees and who lobbied members of Congress to get the enabling legislation passed. She is Regional Representative for the US Department of Education.

Dillingham inquired about Bill Tempel, recommended by Congressman Skelton, as a potential new member who visited the board meeting in April. Billings reported that she has had communication with Tempel but that he will be out of town until mid-June and has not as yet committed to board membership.

Charles Clark gave a brief presentation about the history of the building we were meeting in and also of the Territorial period and its many governors and constitutions. There was good related discussion.

Clark moved acceptance of minutes of the past two meetings. With a second by Breidenthal, the motion passed.

Dunfield reviewed the April Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement. There was a recommendation that we keep in mind an audit in the future which will be required by some potential donors.

Billings provided the latest fundraising report. A proposal made to the Kemper Foundation was not on their April agenda as expected, so it will be late July before we hear from them. On the list for submitting proposals are the Baehr and Roman Foundations in Paola that have been recommended by Gibson. There was discussion of administrative change at the Hall Foundation and timing of making a request there. Registration with the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation Donor Edge program and the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) with the federal government in order to receive federal money are underway. Nearly \$1,000 has been collectively donated by

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seven different entities in Humboldt, KS, showing a very grassroots commitment to FFNHA.

Dillingham reported that the day after last month's meeting he, Tacha and Billings made a trip to Jefferson City to meet with Governor Blunt and Lt. Governor Peter Kinder and received a good reception to FFNHA information provided. Kinder recommended a presentation requesting an appropriate match to the KDOC financial contribution to the next Missouri Tourism Board which he chairs. That meeting has yet to be set. Dillingham also announced that Governor Blunt had appointed a MO Civil War Commission and funded it at \$200,000.

## OLD BUSINESS

There was discussion of the proposed contract with DMI to manage FFNHA. Three points with recommendations for clarification/change were made: 1) In #2 (a) i , list and define the "services rendered" with a specific \$\$ figure attached; 2) In #2 (a) ii , use a different description of federal government connection with FFNHA such as "to include but not be limited to" instead of the word "interface"; and 3) in #6, indicate termination of thirty (30) days instead of ninety (90) days. A motion by Mike Gibson with a second by \_\_\_\_\_ was made to approve the agreement in spirit with future clarification in the three areas. Motion passed.

Billings updated the board on progress of the management plan process by sharing the draft vision and mission as well as the proposed themes to be discussed at the Partnership Team meeting on Thursday, May 8. Curtis shared his experience with this type of work and suggested that themes be tested in the public because often the group doing the work is too close to it to see any pitfalls.

## NEW BUSINESS

Billings reported an opportunity to partner with other heritage areas under the banner of the Alliance of National Heritage Areas to do an Economic Impact of Heritage Tourism Study this summer. There is no charge for the study; however, grassroots sites and volunteers will be asked to survey visitors with the survey tool provided. All agreed that this would be a good baseline for measurement of FFNHA work in the future.

Billings also proposed that FFNHA institute an Enewsletter by contracting with Constant Contact for a non-profit fee of less than \$300 annually. She reminded the board that she has been authorized for these types of expenditures but wanted approval of the concept which she readily received. In response to her request for information that might be included in an Enewsletter, the following suggestions were made:

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- \*fundraising information – both opportunities and gifts made
- \*ideas for kids programs
- \*information on other heritage areas around the country
- \*grant opportunities
- \*event of the month both current and historically
- \*a “good ideas” corner...”news to use”
- \*opportunity for questions from small sites and communities
- \*new projects/programming in the area
- \*featured stories submitted by partners on a rotative basis

It was suggested that we meet at Brown vs Board of Education NPS site in Topeka on Tuesday, June 3. Northern invited the board to Quindaro on July 8 provided the overlook project is complete. Suggestions are welcome for the meeting scheduled for August 12.

Meeting adjourned with thanks to Charles Clark for making arrangements with Shawnee Indian Mission.