Freedom's Frontier
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Leadership Studies Building
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Balderson, Clark, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Gibson, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wood and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Benton, Breidenthal, Cohen, Craig, Ford, Jones, Kemper, Maag, McCoy, Northern, and Wagnon. Lindsey Bruns, Cheryl Collins, Olivia Collins, Carrie Faylin, Bonnie Lynn-Sherow and Bob Workman were guests.

Tacha called the meeting to order and Olivia Collins welcomed the Board to Kansas State University and introduced Bruns and Faylin, both students in the Leadership Studies Program.

Gibson introduced Lynn-Sherow, who spoke about programs within the Kansas State University History Department and introduced Workman, director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, a project under development in Manhattan.

Board members and guests introduced themselves and Tacha spoke about the background and goals of Freedom's Frontier.

Stroup spoke about American Humanics and its relationship with the Leadership Studies Program at Kansas State University. Olivia Collins discussed the program and the required internship structure. Tacha proposed to work with an intern from the Leadership Studies Program to create a development plan and explore future internship partnerships between Freedom's Frontier, its partners and colleges and universities within the region. Dillingham moved to accept the proposal. The motion was seconded by Balderson and approved.

Dillingham moved to approve the minutes of the February meeting. The motion was seconded by Wood and approved.

Billings discussed the financial report. Tacha acknowledged a gift from the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust for designated projects saying that these types of earmarked contributions can be helpful in matching federal dollars for general purposes. She encouraged the Board to consider engaging local governments financially. Billings reported on a "Dear Colleague" letter signed by three of our Congressional representatives along with 45 others circulated among Congress to encourage an increase in the National Heritage Area line item in the proposed federal budget. Tacha announced that Stroup and Wood will co-chair the Development Committee.

Dillingham reported that the Donor Edge required a formal policy concerning Board Selection Criteria. Clark drafted the policy and shared it with the Board. Dillingham moved to approve this

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policy. Ramsey seconded the motion. Gibson asked if the policy should limit Board membership to the 41 counties instead of the two states or if Board membership could be extended to those that live outside the states of Kansas or Missouri. In discussion, the Board concurred that the 41-county limit would be too prohibitive, especially for officials with the State of Missouri that may live near Jefferson City, while the enabling legislation limits Board membership to Kansas and Missouri. The motion to approve the policy passed.

In old business, Billings reported that the trademark of the logo and intellectual property application is still in process. The management plan has been approved by the NPS Midwest office and sent to the National Office of National Heritage Areas for approval to be followed by the Secretary of the Interior's office for signature. Billings reported that she would travel to Omaha later this week to meet with the Midwest Regional Director of the Park Service and would ask about the status of the management plan.

Ramsey reported on the March 11 Partnership Team meeting and the Advisory Committee meeting in Lexington, Missouri. She discussed the process of the Advisory Committee to review sites that apply to become a Recognized or Star location. Dillingham suggested using site reviews as a public relations tool to help build understanding for Freedom's Frontier and historic sites with local residents and governments. Stroup proposed helping develop a prototype exhibit that connects the stories of two locations. Balderson added that this approach would help sites see the benefits of connecting their stories. Tacha challenged the Board to provide a grant to two sites to create a prototype exhibit. Wood shared an example of the connections that have been discovered between Cass County and Franklin County and could be explored through such a grant.

McPike discussed the status of the map/brochure project and announced that the Orientation Materials Task Force had chosen Jeffrey L. Bruce & Co. to work on the project. She also announced the status of the website redevelopment project.

Temple invited the Board to the next formal board meeting. The meeting will be held May 11 at Lexington, MO.

Meeting was adjourned.

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