Freedom's Frontier
NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Minutes from Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, December 7, 2010
Carnegie Building
Lawrence, KS

The meeting was called to order by Deanell Tacha, Chair. Present were Tacha, Benton, Breidenthal, Clark, Craig, Dillingham, Dunfield, English, Ford, Henry Fortunato for Kemper, Jones, Maag, Northern, Ramsey, Stroup, Tempel, Wagnon and Judy Billings and Julie McPike. Absent were Arter, Cohen, Gibson, McCoy and Wood. Guests present were Tim McKee, Andy Thompkins, Jamie Hunt, Dr. Kermit Wedel, Kathy Wedel, Evan Meyers, Christopher Powers, Steve Coen, all representatives from the Kansas Health Foundation; a guest of Emanuel Northern and Ann Rosenthal, Dan Rosenthal, and Bill Wagnon.

Tacha welcomed the Board and guests to the Carnegie Building. Steve Coen, President of Kansas Health Foundation announced that in recognition of her 18 years of service, the Kansas Health Foundation was making a donation of $25,000 to the non-profit of Tacha's choice. Tacha thanked the Foundation, recognized its Board and staff, and presented the donation to the Freedom's Frontier Board.

Tacha explained the history of the Carnegie Building and its evolution to becoming the new office for Destination Management, Inc., the Lawrence Convention & Visitors Bureau and Freedom's Frontier. Dillingham moved to write a letter of thanks to the City of Lawrence for the investment in the building and future exhibit. Stroup seconded and the motion passed. Tacha led the Board and guests on a tour of the renovated Carnegie Building and explained drawings of an exhibit designed to broadly interpret the three themes of Freedom's Frontier. The exhibit is being paid for by the City of Lawrence and will have examples of Lawrence heritage that reflect events throughout FFNHA. The goal is that the exhibit will then inspire visitors to explore other sites in FFNHA.

Temple moved approval of the June minutes. Benton seconded and the motion passed.

Craig reported on the October Partnership meeting in Bates County and explained site visits and the reasons for them. She reported that the Advisory Committee added two new members, Scott Vieira, Johnson County (KS) Libraries and Jack Landers, Johnson County (MO) Historical Society.

Billings gave the Board copies of the annual report to NPS/ANHA and the November financial report. She noted that Sue Pridemore and Marty Sterkel from the Midwest Regional Office of the National Park Service would attend the March meeting to discuss federal funding and address other questions we may have. Billings presented and commented on the 2011 proposed budget. She noted the need for additional staff. Craig commented the need to balance work on the heritage area as a whole and assistance to partner sites in the form of grants. Wagnon moved to approve the 2011 proposed budget. Breidenthal seconded and the motion passed.

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Dillingham presented a report from the nominating committee. He noted that board members whose term expire at the end of 2010 agreed to serve another term. Three vacancies exist on the board. Letters inquiring about interest in serving on the board have been sent to Representative Ike Skelton, Diane Cleaver and Carol Marinovich. Dillingham noted the need to make sure all general areas and all "concepts of freedom" were represented on the board. He asked for suggestions for representation from the Junction City/Manhattan area. Craig suggested Betty Knight as a possible Platte County, MO-area member. Connie Banwart of Fort Scott, Kansas agreed to serve on the board pending election. Dillingham moved to elect Connie Banwart to the board for a three-year term. Clark seconded and the motion passed. Dillingham moved to retain the Executive Committee for another term. Clark seconded and the motion passed.

Stroup reported on the Development Committee's work for 2010. As of the December meeting, board participation was at 90%. Stroup shared an end-of-the year letter to be send to donors and partners via email to report on the year's accomplishments and solicit donations. The committee will take no further action on a deed of gift policy, having been advised by the Administrative Committee that there is no need for one. Stroup moved to approve the Restricted Giving Policy. Breidenthal seconded and the motion passed. Stroup moved to approve the Partnership Fundraising Policy. Fortunato seconded and the motion passed.

Billings reported on progress with the map project. Craig volunteered to solicit bids for printing to add to the four already in hand. Billings also gave a summary of a conference call about the new director of the National Park Service and the Park Service's program legislation for National Heritage Areas.

The meeting was adjourned to a joint dinner with the FFNHA board and the Kansas Health Foundation board at Judge Tacha's home.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held in St. Joseph, MO with NPS Midwest Regional representatives as guests.

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