

BOARD MINUTES
A. W. PERRY HOMESTEAD MUSEUM
February 23, 2016

The A. W. Perry Homestead Museum Board met at the A. W. Perry Homestead Museum, at 7:05 pm, Tuesday, February 23, 2016.

Present: Charles Thrasher, George Barnes, Linda Mayberry, Judy Scamardo, Rachel Lewis, Lark Tribble, Paul Price, and Council Liaison Steve Babick.
Staff: Toyia Pointer, Curator

Absent: Lisa Stavinoha and Thomas Williams

- I. New members were introduced. New members include Lark Tribble, Linda Mayberry, Judy Scamardo, and Rachel Lewis.
- II. The October meeting minutes were reviewed. Barnes motioned to approve and Thrasher seconded, minutes were approved unanimously with no changes.
- III. Election of officers was discussed. Officers are elected each year, usually in January. Barnes nominated Thrasher for Chair, nomination was seconded by Lewis, all were in favor, none opposed. Thrasher nominated Barnes for Vice Chair, nomination was seconded by Lewis, all were in favor, none opposed.
- IV. Pointer gave an update on the Perry Society and the Gazebo Project. David Yarbrough and the project architect, Terry Wright, attended the meeting scheduled for January. A quorum was not reached at that meeting so the meeting was not held, but Wright and Yarbrough did give an informal update at that time to those present. Pointer distributed the Perry Society's annual report for 2015. They reported \$14,500 raised by January and needed \$26,000 total to fund the project. At the time they still needed about \$11,000 to conclude fundraising and they hoped to have it raised by this spring. Price recommended the Perry Society contact the Masons/Eastern Star since Milburn Gravley was a long time member of that organization.

Babick said he brought up the Gazebo Project during the information sharing portion of a recent Council meeting, encouraging members to donate. Pointer said she could provide donation forms for anyone interested in making a donation to the project. Price and Thrasher asked when would be the best time, considering the Perry Museum's activity calendar, to do the construction. Pointer said that July and August are clear of activities, or in the late fall or winter.

The Perry Society's general meeting for members is to be scheduled in the spring. It was noted that no one present had seen a renewal notice for

membership this year, nor had they received a notice of an annual meeting for membership.

Barnes recommended that the Chair contact the Society and get their dates for meetings and possibly a goal date for completing the Gazebo Project fundraising and construction. Pointer said that she would inform the Society of the new Chair and that he should be added to their email list for upcoming meetings.

Barnes expressed the importance of Museum Board members supporting and contributing to the Gazebo Project. Thrasher pointed out that Scamardo was one of the founding members of the Perry Society. Scamardo discussed the importance of the Society to be consistent in requesting membership renewals annually and holding one or two meetings yearly for membership. Price commented that the Society should be present in some way at museum events. Tribble recommended an email blast to members that stated current totals raised and amount still needed, and would like to see regular communication with membership on progress of projects. The group agreed that monthly or quarterly updates to members would be helpful to keep people engaged and help the Society reach its goals. As the liaison to the Society, the Museum Board Chair could share these ideas. Price said that the fundraising project had been announced at family gatherings and they had sent emails to the Gravley/Perry family as well, but if he had an update from the Society it would be helpful and he could send out another request for donations. Scamardo mentioned that Perry Society Vice President and Pointer had applied for and received a \$3000 donation from the Civic League.

- V. The long-range planning document produced last year and formalized at the October 2015 meeting is a five year strategic plan that will set a blueprint to work from and set goals and priorities in upcoming years. It is a fluid document in which items can be added, moved around, deleted, etc. The Museum Board would review it each January to set its own goals and committees for the year.

Barnes suggested dividing the Board tasks into committees. The following committees were established:

- Interpretive Master Plan- Scamardo, Stavinoha, Lewis
- Historic Landscape Planning/Improvements- Mayberry, Price
- Grants- Tribble, Barnes
- Gazebo/Perry Society Liaison- Thrasher

Committees will work together with staff throughout the year.

- VI. Information Sharing
- a. Pointer shared that a new intern, Kimberly Keetch, had replaced outgoing intern Christina DeBartolo. The Leisure Services division of Parks and

Recreation hired a Recreation Coordinator position that will oversee Education programming for the recreation centers and the Perry Museum. The candidate selected, Allen Wiskera, has experience in assisting with programming at the Carrollton Public Libraries and will be moving over to us from that department.

- b. Vintage Base Ball Tournament April 2 in Farmers Branch. Carrollton Elite will participate, along with teams from Farmers Branch, Plano, Irving, Fort Concho, and Kansas. Spectators were encouraged to attend.
- c. Homestead How-to and Spring Blooms events are scheduled for April 16. Partnering with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Services on Homestead How-to event to offer three workshops; urban chickens, raised bed gardens, and healthy eating/food preservation. Other community experts will also attend, like beekeepers, Master Gardeners/Naturalists, and Carrollton Community Gardens, etc.
- d. Babick spoke about the upcoming events in downtown Carrollton, like TexFest. He reminded the Board that at the last meeting an inquiry was made on the status of the adjacent Gravley property. He reported that he formally requested that the family be re-approached about the city's offer to purchase the land by the newly hired Transit Oriented Development Manager. The previous offer was made by the last TOD manager, that offer was not accepted and a counter offer had not been received. He wanted them to reach back out to Mrs. Gravley one more time to reiterate the offer. He was not aware if that had been done yet.

Meeting concluded at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toyia Pointer, Curator/Staff Liaison

Charles Thrasher, Chair