

Meeting of the Historic Decatur Association (HDA) Board of Directors (BOD)

Tuesday, May 29, 2018 6:00pm

Meeting Location:

Offices of Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton & Adams LLP

402 East Moulton Street, Decatur, AL

Meeting Attendees:

Wade Dinsmore
Larry Freeman
Cindy Upton
Julia Roth
Justin Hall
Lindsey Faulkner
Brenda Henson
Chad Hopkins

Guests:

Astrid McIntosh
Kim Carr

2018 HDA President Wade Dinsmore called the meeting to order. The first topic on the agenda was the acceptance of the minutes. Cindy Upton sent the updated draft version for review prior to the meeting and there was no further comment or discussion. Julia Roth moved to accept the minutes as submitted and Chad Hopkins seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The final version of the minutes are kept on the HDA website.

The next topic was Larry Freeman's treasury report. As of this meeting, the HDA had \$46,183.33 in the bank. There are currently 91 paid member households. Expenses included costs related to the newsletter and Garden Tour expenses. The motion to accept the treasury report was made by Cindy Upton, with a second from Lindsey Faulkner. The motion passed unanimously.

The next topics were Committee Reports. Cindy reported that the Garden Tour held on May 20th was a success. Approximately 200 people came through the headquarters set up in Westminster Presbyterian Church's Fellowship Hall to pick up Tour information and refreshments, with visitors coming from all over north Alabama and southern Tennessee. The Decatur Morgan County Convention and Visitor's Bureau provided handout literature for Decatur attractions, as well as the walking tour brochure for Albany and Old Decatur. Allyson Shabel, Urban Regional Extension Agent for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, performed a demonstration on container gardening to a large audience. The Decatur

Youth Symphony provided musicians to play at Tour headquarters during the afternoon. Cindy visited each garden during the Tour, and homeowners were pleased with the enthusiastic responses from visitors. Westminster's Fellowship Hall was the perfect location and setup for the headquarters, so Cindy indicated that she had requested use of the facility for the 2019 Tour, planned for May 19th.

The next Committee Report was about the Christmas Tour. Committee Chairman Justin Hall reported that Tour houses have been lined up for both Albany and Old Decatur, with 4 churches and the Train Depot also on the Tour. The Headquarters location has not been finalized. The Christmas in July event is planned to be held at Townhouse Galleries on July 12th. A vote was taken to approve a budget up to \$900 to cover the Christmas in July event costs. The motion to accept was made by Cindy Upton, with a second from Chad Hopkins and passed unanimously.

Representing the Tree Committee, Astrid McIntosh reported that water bags were delivered to those who already had their HDA provided trees installed in Albany. The trees to be provided to Old Decatur are expected to be installed sometime in the fall/winter timeframe. Old Decatur is still recovering from the extensive damage caused by large fallen trees during the April 3rd storm. The tree installations were delayed to allow cleanup to be completed, and also to reassess the number of new trees to plant. Many sidewalks and curbs were damaged, with repairs needed before the Christmas Tour.

The Newsletter Committee report was next. Brenda Henson is working on the next newsletter, which is planned for a June distribution. Possible content was discussed, such as a listing of paid member households, and information on city services as well as a Garden Tour recap.

Discussion of the Social Committee's activities was next. The covered dish/potluck social held on April 22nd at the Cross Eyed Owl Brewery was a success. Attendees enjoyed the event and the location worked very well for food, beverages and as a meeting space. The next HDA social is planned for June 24th, once again at the Cross Eyed Owl. Astrid and Kim Carr are overseeing this activity and will send out details soon.

Kim reported that as the chairperson for the Communications Committee, she continues to post information on NextDoor, the HDA website and Facebook pages as well as continuing to look for new information to share.

No Old Business was discussed.

The next topic was New Business. Larry informed the group that the storage facility bill to iStorage was coming due again on June 1st, and plans were still to move out since the rental rates had been significantly raised. The new plan is to move the stored items to Cagle Storage, but more time is needed to get everything moved. The storage unit is used to house items such as the signs for both the Christmas and Garden Tours, as well as other items used for the Tours, leftover party supplies, water bags for trees and various other items. Brenda volunteered to take a check over to the new rental place we intend to use, Cagle Storage, to pay for an entire year starting as soon as possible but no later than July 1st. Paying for the full year saves money over month to month rental. The annual rate would be \$605. The motion to approve this expenditure was made by Justin with a second by Chad and passed

unanimously. Larry took an action to quickly check with iStorage to assure that we could stay there through June if needed and to pay that bill.

The HDA BOD normally meets at 6:00pm on the last Tuesday of every month except December. The next meeting of the HDA BOD is planned for June 26th. The location is planned to be at the Offices of Eyster, Key, Tubb, Roth, Middleton & Adams LLP.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Upton
Secretary, HDA