

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

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at 6:00pm

Meeting Location:

Historic Depot and Railroad Museum, 701 Railroad St NW

Meeting Attendees:

David Breland
Cindy Upton
Harriette Mathews
Brenda Henson
Mike Meely
Astrid McIntosh
Craig Baker
Kevin Malcolm
Lynn Schuppert

2019 HDA President Brenda Henson called the meeting to order. The minutes from the March meeting were approved with Craig Baker providing the first motion to accept and Mike Meely seconding. The approval vote carried unanimously. The minutes will be archived on the HDA website.

A special New Business topic was next. Justin Hall resigned after the last HDA meeting and Kevin Malcolm/Old Decatur was asked to take Justin's place. The motion to accept Kevin's appointment to the HDA BOD was made by Cindy Upton and seconded by Lynn Schuppert. The motion passed with a favorable unanimous vote.

2019 HDA Treasurer Mike Meely presented the April income and expense report. Expenses related to the Christmas Tour, greenery freight, insurance payment and website fees totaled \$5,757.76 and income from dues, Square fees and other sources totaled \$1,174.25. Mike's report shows the HDA to have \$61,783.52 in the bank. The HDA website hosting fees were paid for the next three years by Brenda for a total of \$338.58. The motion to reimburse Brenda was made by Lynn, with Craig providing the second. The motion passed with a unanimous positive vote.

Mike provided the membership report. The HDA currently has 62 paid members for 2019.

Committee Reports were next. Garden Tour Chair Cindy Upton said that preparations for the May 19th event were underway and on track. She expressed concern over the reluctance of neighbors to open their gardens for the Tour and wondered if a Tour is going to be sustainable every year. Some of the BOD members indicated that they would consider being on the Tour next year. The BOD also volunteered to support the Tour as needed. Cindy said that she would ask for volunteer help at the headquarters at Westminster Presbyterian Church soon via Nextdoor. Mike gave Cindy a \$200 check to present to Westminster officials as the stipend payment for use of their fellowship hall.

The Christmas Tour was the next topic. 2019 Chair Harriette Mathews provided a written report with current status on preparation activities for the December 14th event. Subcommittees have been set up,

as well as a meeting schedule. Some houses to feature on the Tour have been confirmed, with the search for more houses ongoing. Westminster Presbyterian Church was selected as the headquarters location. Harriette also provided the current information on other possible activities and tour sites. She and her committee are planning the "Christmas in July" kickoff event to be held on July 18th.

The next topic was a report from the Tree Committee. There was no new activity to report this month, since the optimal planting time won't be until this fall. Brenda discussed again the requirement to have the Decatur City's involvement with the selection and placement of the trees to be installed in our neighborhoods.

The Newsletter Committee report was next. Brenda reported that the current quarterly newsletter had been delivered to each house in early April and the response had been positive.

The Social Committee and Communications Committee had nothing to report.

Old Business was discussed next. David Breland reported he was still working through several avenues to obtain grants and other possible types of funding for new signage. He reported that he had already received a pending notification concerning a \$6000 grant from the Decatur Morgan County Tourism Bureau and had been in more discussions with representatives from state level organizations. David indicated that these possible grants plus the \$30K set aside funding from the HDA should give us the possibility of starting the signage project implementation soon.

The next topic was Old Business. Brenda filed the 2017 and 2018 tax return required of 503C organizations such as ours. The filing fee was \$79.90. Lynn made a motion to reimburse Brenda, with Cindy providing the second. The motion passed with a unanimous favorable vote.

The next topic under Old Business was the incorporation of the revised Bylaw language into the document. Brenda spoke with Scott Faulkner, the attorney who developed the original Bylaw document. Scott indicated that the changes (to cover email voting and to increase the BOD membership) would not affect the incorporation certificate, so Brenda could make the updates herself. Since those changes were voted on last year, there was no need to vote again. The new version of the Bylaws will be posted on the HDA website.

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 May 28, 2019. The location is planned to be the Historic Depot and Railroad Museum.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Upton
Secretary, HDA