

Cayce Museum Commission Meeting Minutes  
7 October 2020

Members present: Alice Brooks, AG Dantzler, Dale Gaskins, Marion Hutson, Archie Moore, Mary Sharpe and Larry Whitener. Approved absences – Alice Brooks and Judy Corbitt.

Also Present: City Manager Tracy Hegler, Municipal Clerk Mendy Corder, Museum Curator Jerry Kirkland, Museum Assistant Andy Thomas, Leo Redmond, Modesta and David Brinkman

- I. Commission Chairman Dale Gaskins called the Meeting to order. The meeting was held on the City of Cayce council chambers to allow proper spacing and fresh air.
- II. Commissioner Dantzler offered the invocation.
- III. Commission Chairman Dale Gaskins introduced guests, Modesta and David Brinkman - SC historian and archeologist.
- IV. The minutes from the 4 March 2020, meeting was presented for review. Minor errors were found Ms. Helger's first name was misspelled and the fire truck is a 1936 not a 1955 as stated. Commissioner Sharpe moved to accept the minutes as amended and Commissioner Whitener seconded the motion and the motion carried by unanimous vote.
- V. Commission Chairman Dale Gaskins asked the City Manager to provide information about the impact of Covid 19 and the activities with the City of Cayce and the museum.
- VI. Ms. Hegler - City Manager of Cayce SC.
  - A. Ms. Hegler gave an update on the City. She stated that the FY20/21 budget was affected by the COVID pandemic. To balance the budget City staff cut 20% of the predicted revenues from business license fees and Accommodations Tax and Hospitality Tax revenues. She stated that hopefully a budget amendment can be made soon to introduce more funds to the budget.
  - B. Ms. Hegler stated that the Museum had a soft opening, it was not advertised.

- C. Ms. Hegler stated that City services were never cut during the pandemic but City staff was working on a 2 team alternate schedule (one team working from home, one team in the office) but all staff is back working at City Hall now.
- D. Ms. Hegler stated that the proposed outlet mall to be built at Hwy 77 & 12<sup>th</sup> Street Extension had changed to a mixed use development that will consist of a hotel, apartments, office space, restaurants and shops.
- E. Ms. Hegler stated that Lexington Two school District is building a performing arts center and a new district office on 12<sup>th</sup> Street Extension.

#### VII. Discussions on the reopening and operations of the Museum.

- A. Mr. Thomas asked Ms. Hegler when it could be advertised that the Museum was open. Ms. Hegler said once it had been open for a month or so then they could advertise it.
- B. Mr. Kirkland asked when people could start using the basement again for meetings. Ms. Hegler stated that as long as the state was under a State of Emergency no one could meet there.
- C. Mr. Gaskins asked Mr. Thomas and Mr. Kirkland felt safe with people touring the Museum. They both stated that they felt safe as long as no more than 6 people were allowed in.

#### VIII. Christmas

- A. The Commission discussed whether or not to hold Christmas Traditions. The majority felt that most people would not come to the event during a pandemic. Mr. Dantzler made a motion to not hold Christmas Traditions this year. Ms. Sharpe seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

B. Mr. Gaskins suggested decorating the Museum for Christmas and the front porch.

C. Ms. Hegler stated that the City was considering having a drive thru Christmas event at City Hall. She stated that the Woman's Club would hand out cookies and hot chocolate in front of the brick wall at Granby Gardens Park, Caroling groups would be located along the route around City Hall and the Museum Commission could be dressed in period attire and hand out hot cider in front of the Museum. She stated Santa could be in the RIO firetruck close to the City's official Christmas tree.

IX. Commission Chairman Gaskins introduced a guest and applicant for the vacant commission seat – Mr. David Brinkman.

- David Brinkman discussed his archaeology finds and the land he and his wife purchased in Riverland Park that is home to Fort Congaree II artifacts.

X. General discussion

- The Commission discussed Martin Marietta and suggested that the quarry was buying homes in Riverland Park so they would own that land that borders the quarry. Mr. Moore stated that Martin Marietta hired 2 companies to purchase the homes and put them in a holding company.
- Mr. Brinkman said he is contacted 3 to 4 times a year about purchasing his home in Riverland Park.
- Mr. Gaskins stated that the Museum Commission asked the former City Manager if they could meet with Martin Marietta staff to discuss preserving historically significant areas on the quarries land but was told no. He thinks the current City Manager may be more receptive.

- Mr. Gaskins stated that he would like to move the cemeteries on Martin Marietta's property to another location to preserve them.
- Mr. Gaskins stated he would like the Commission to put together a plan, with Cayce City Council's support, on how to approach the quarry. He suggested having the City's attorney review the plan. Mr. Moore made a motion for the Commission to create a plan to approach the quarry. Mr. Whitener seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

#### XI. Comments from Museum Staff

- Mr. Kirkland stated that he and Mr. Thomas got a lot of housekeeping items done while the Museum was closed to the public. He stated everything in the Museum was organized, boxed and labeled.
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- Mr. Thomas invited the Commission to come by the Museum to see the new exhibit, The History of Cayce, SC in 50 Objects.
- Mr. Thomas stated that he had been in contact with teachers about bringing their students to the Museum.
- Mr. Thomas mentioned possibly holding a fundraiser to raise money for the Firehouse Exhibit.
- Mr. Thomas stated that he is working with the City's PR Consultant to create a membership program for the Museum.
- Mr. Thomas stated that he had sent potential sign designs for the Museum's outbuildings to the Commission and needed them to vote on whether or not to proceed with the signs.

- Mr. Thomas stated that the Commission needs to meet again regarding its Strategic Planning once everyone can meet in person again.

## XII. New Business

- Vacant commission seat. Mr. and Mrs Brinkman were thanked for their participation and asked to leave to proceedings as he was one of two prospective candidates for the vacant commission seat. General discussion was held and Mr. Brinkman was selected as the best fit to our organization. A motion to accept the application of Mr. Brinkman was made by Commissioner Whitener and seconded by Commissioner Hutson - vote was taken and Mr. Brinkman won the vote unanimously.
- A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Dantzler and seconded by Commissioner Whitener – the meeting adjourned.

Many thanks to Ms. Mendy Corder for her assistance of the minutes.