

Punta Gorda Historical Society
Board Meeting
May 24, 2018

In attendance were: Connie Harbeson, Jannett Hawley, Madie Kirkland, Kathy Hindman-Kartz, Linda Wilson, Margaret Borgardus, Jaha Cummings and Sue Blackwell.

Guests: Sherra Simes

President Margaret Bogardus called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. There were no minutes for review. Sue Blackwell took notes for Secretary Martha McKenzie. The Treasurer's report was provided for review.

Margaret provided reports and updates:

Donations; We have received donations in the amount of \$5,000 and \$1,000. The donors are remaining anonymous.

Roof discussion; We have been assigned a claims specialist through our insurance company. Margaret has her contact information, but they have not yet spoken. Should we not be able to get support and assistance through the specialist, we will consider filing a report with the Florida Department of Financial Services, which has oversight of insurance companies doing business in Florida. Jaha will contact a public adjuster he knows if necessary. Margaret has received a bid of \$1,800 to do a temporary patch on the Woman's Club roof. The Board decided to wait until we know the status of our claim before we pursue a temporary fix.

History Park; Starr Zachritz will vacate the Trabue Building by May 31. Margaret reported that Sharon Sapp has held three fund raising events for the benefit of the History Park. She's done a paranormal event, a mother daughter tea, and a park tour. She made \$1,154 and all of the money went back to purchase supplies for upkeep at the park.

Sharon has asked about having a flea market at the park on Saturdays. The board decided to wait until the comprehensive History Park plan is completed to make a decision.

Margaret is still trying to get the Trabue building painted. We will set a date to recognize the Board of Realtors for the roof they provided on the Trabue building. She will work with Marianne Lilly to schedule something.

History Park Comprehensive Plan: Margaret gave the floor to Sue Blackwell, who has been working on developing a comprehensive plan for the History Park. Several circumstances are converging to make this an opportune time to revisit how we are currently using the park and determine what changes we would like

to see in the future. The changing circumstances are: a change in the Farmer's Market management, the future use of the Trabue building since our tenant is leaving, the possibility of gaining some income and engagement with the Quednau-Hindman house, the future of the Community Garden, and the construction of the Charlotte Punta Gorda Library.

For planning purposes, Sue divided the park into its various areas and functions. She provided a draft planning document and included some thoughts and ideas under each. The current committee members Margaret Bogardus, Lynette Degouw, Sharon Sapp, Scot Shively, Linda Wilson, Sue Blackwell and Martha McKenzie. The initial framework of the plan is attached for review. Further meetings will be held to involve the Board, membership and the community in moving the History Park plan forward.

Train Depot: There is still leakage down the walls when it rains.. Jaha will contact a potential vendor to check the source of the leaks so we can determine what we need to do to make the necessary repairs.

Patterson Foundation/Giving Challenge: We received \$4,505 in donations during the Giving Challenge. If all are matched, we should receive approximately \$9,000. This money will be used for the roofing needs for our building. Margaret will ask Martha for copies of our Giving Challenge documents to have on file at the PGHS office as part of our official record.

Margaret and Jaha have continued to participate in the educational/training series offered through the Patterson Foundation. Most recently, they participated in a conference call. Part of the feedback they received from the Foundation was that we need to focus on

1. Maximizing our rental capacity
2. Enhance our educational programming
3. Consider establishing our own gift store

Nickel Ride: Nickel Ride is sponsoring a 50/50 fundraiser at the Wyvern on June 1. Proceeds will go to PGHS. Sue will make contact and try to get a flyer for our website.

Block Party: Connie Harbeson reported on the Old Fashioned Craft Table at the Block Party held April 28. Her written report noted good volunteer support, suggestions for re-configuring the physical set up of the activities to encourage more participation. The volunteers helped children participate and distributed information about PGHS. She reported that overall it was fulfilling to offer an "unplugged" activity and for the student volunteers to participate in this community effort.

Communication/Website: Sue reported that the QR code project in the History Park is ready to go live. Scot and Jill Shively and Bart Daly installed the posts

and signs and then Scot did the behind the scenes work to bring it all to "life".

Anyone with a smart phone can download a free QR scanner app. The information from the sign is then sent to the phone instantly. We will monitor the feedback. The History Quest material and Geo-cache information will be there soon as well.

Donations policy: Sue presented a draft Donation Policy for the organization. The Board approved the policy and it will become effective immediately. Linda Wilson agreed to serve on the review committee that will determine what items are appropriate for PGHS to accept. Once the forms are finalized, it will be distributed and posted on the PGHS website.

Payment Approval: Margaret asked the Board for approval to pay \$500 to Debit and Credit Accounting for completing and filing the IRS 990 forms for PGHS. Jaha made a motion for approval and Connie Harbeson seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously.

Farmers Market: Margaret reported that she sent a letter to the vendors indicating that Jerry Presseller would no longer be collecting money for rent as he will not be managing the market after June 1. Sherra, Margaret and Sharon will handle the market over the summer. Parking remains a huge issue as we have lost parking spaces due to construction of the library. Suggestions are welcomed!

Upcoming Events: The Port Charlotte Rotary is hosting a Trivia Pursuit night on June 12, with the proceed going to PGHS. Tickets are \$20.

Comments: Sue Blackwell reported that she is working on an emergency plan for PGHS.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Blackwell