

Board of Trustees – Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: February 18, 2025

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: The Clarksville-Montgomery County Museum
d.b.a. Customs House Museum & Cultural Center
Averitt Board Room

\\Chmserver2\usershares\VICKI\Documents\CHM Board\Board Minutes\Board Meetings\2025 Year\2025_02_18_Board Meeting\2025_02_18_BM_A_1_Board Meeting Minutes.docx

The Clarksville-Montgomery County Museum held the four hundred and eighty-sixth (486) meeting Of the Board of Trustees on February 18, 2025, in the Averitt Board Room of the Museum.

Board Members Present: Larry Richardson (Chair), Dan Black, Kell Black, John Halliburton, Darwin Eldridge, Brendalyn Player, Nick Nicholson, Joe Creek, Carolyn Ferrell, Amelia Magette, Jody Issacs, Armi Rhodes, Kyong Dawson, Tracy Knight

Board Members Absent: Jane Olson, Deanna McLaughlin, Marydith Young

Staff: Frank Lott, Executive Director, Vicki Parker, Office Manager (absent), Channing Grimes, Membership, Volunteer & Development,

I. **Roll Call:** See Present and Absent

II. **Minutes of January 21, 2025, meeting were presented for review.**

Motion to approve January 21, 2025, minutes:

Darwin Eldridge

Motion to 2nd:

Dan Black

All Approved

III. **Officer's Report**

A. **Treasurer's Report:** Darwin Eldridge (Treasurer) presented the balance sheet, income statement, and statement of cash flows for January 2024. The Museum's total assets at the end of the month equaled \$2,467,726.60, liabilities equaled \$59,803.27 and equity (net position) equaled \$2,407,923.33. Total assets dropped compared to 2024, primarily due to accumulated depreciation. The Museum's non-door restricted assets amounted to \$451,949.81, while its donor restricted assets amounted to \$81,743.51. Total cash was higher than the prior year and equaled \$438,015.67. Most of the Museum's cash now consists of general operating funds, due to the reduction in restricted funds as part of the Explorer's Landing Project last fiscal year and fulfilling donor obligations for the Model train area and paying off the line of credit with Legends Bank in January 2024. The Museum's receivable accounts balance decreased compared to the prior year to \$60,09.45, which consists primarily of pledges for Second & Commerce Magazine, group tours and remodeling the Explorer's Landing and Model Trains areas. Compared to this point in the prior fiscal year, the Museum's short-term liquidity is stronger due to continued fundraising activities, grants, earned revenue, and paying off the line of credit.

Revenue for the month equaled \$139,154.21 and expenses equaled \$141,024.06, which provided a net income of -\$1,869.85. The year-to-date net income is -\$124,535.33. The prior

year's net income was -\$77,427.48. It is important to note there are non-cash items also affecting net income related to depreciation in the amount of \$151,497.92. The Statement of Cash Flows shows a \$41,681.67 increase in cash compared to the end of FY2024.

The Finance Committee approved January 2025 Financials during the February 18, 2025, meeting. Larry Richardson stated the financials stand approved as presented.

B. Executive Director – Frank Lott reported:

1. **Long-Term Gifts and/or Capital Campaign** – The Museum Board of Trustees Executive Committee and the Foundation Committee will meet to discuss strategies soon.
2. **Rockin' Clarksville, Music Legends of the 60's and 70's – Jammin in June** event will be June 14, 2025, in the Turner Auditorium. The entertainment will consist of local artists who performed in and around the Clarksville area during the 60's and 70's. More details will be out soon.
3. **FY 2026 Budget Planning** – Over the month of March the Museum departments will be developing budgets and reviewing with Frank Lott and Vicki Parker for FY 2026 Budget. The first meeting to review the budget with City Mayor Joe Pitts and Finance Office Laurie Matta is in early April.

C. Chairman's Report: Larry Richardson reported:

1. **2025 Board Standing Committee appointments** – Within the board packet a Committee Roster were presented to each board member.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee: Darwin Eldridge reported:

1. **CH Foundation 2024 Update** – The Foundation Board met on February 6, 2025. Scott Hancock, Planters Bank Investment Services, presented an overall performance summary for January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024. Based on the 2024 Year-End return summary the museum will be receiving \$22,527.64 quarterly beginning March 2025. In 2025 a three-year average will be determined to keep the distribution to the museum at a level amount.
2. **Corporate Resolution** – The Finance Committee presented the 2025 corporate resolutions identifying whom within the Board and staff can be a signor on the F&M Bank checking account. The Finance Committee requests board approval to proceed with this resolution.

Motion to approve:

Kell Black

Motion to 2nd:

Tracy Knight

All Approved

3. **Reading Public Museum – Painted Pages: Illuminated manuscripts. 13th – 18th Centuries Exhibition** – Committee request approval to contract and pay traveling exhibition fees for a total of \$10,000 along with \$3,000 shipping cost. The fees will be initial deposit and three payments from March 2023 – November 2026.

Motion to sign Contract and Fund *Painted Pages:*

Illuminated manuscripts Exhibition for up to \$13,000.

Dan Black

Motion to 2nd:

Nick Nicholson

All Approved

B. Building Committee: Nick Nicholson reported:

1. TVA Grant for LED Lighting replacements and HVAC Units
 - a. Lighting – Underway
 - b. HVAC Units – Ordered with no install date yet.
 - c. Frank Lott and Eric Shanley, Facilities Manager, will provide a tour of the support building and other locations where the museum's permanent Collections are housed on February 24, 2025. Board Members were invited to participate.

C. Collections/Exhibits Committee: Kell Black reported:

1. **1890's John Deere wagon** – Tim Amos found this c. 1890's John Deere wagon abandoned on a farm. The wagon has no markings, stamps, or engravings that would reveal more information about its manufacture or use.

The committee voted not to accept.

2. **Kaye & Co. Bell** – The bell is being held at the city maintenance yard. It was once on display in Public Square, but Collections Curator was unable to find any information as to when or how. The inscription on the bell reads "Kaye & Co. Louisville 1891". Carolyn Ferrell, County Historian, will research for more information.

The committee voted not to accept until more information could be provided.

3. **Photos offered by Jerry Laperriere and Diana ^{Tenney}Tenny** – The pictures are one-of-a-kind and some of the only documentation available for these events that took place in Clarksville.
 - a. Cumberland Bridge Demolition – Diana Tenny Laperriere, daughter of local photographer Gerald Tenny, and her husband, Jerry Laperriere offered several photos and negatives made by Gerald Tenny of the demolition of the Cumberland Bridge by the T.O.I. Corp at 9:00 AM on September 25, 1986.

The committee voted to accept.

- b. Bob Hope's visit to APSU – Diana Tenny Laperriere, daughter of local photographer Gerald Tenny, and her husband, Jerry Laperriere offered photos made by Gerald Tenny during Bob Hope's performance at APSU's Dunn Center on October 27, 1979, as part of APSU's homecoming festivities

The committee voted to accept.

- c. Port Royal Bridge – Diana Tenny and Jerry Laperriere offered on photo of the now demolished covered Port Royal Bridge also photographed by Gerald Tenny.

The committee voted to accept.

4. **Portraits of Austin Peay and Sallie Hurst and Austin Peay's sterling silver dining set** Judge John Peay, grandson of Tennessee Governor Austin Peay, has offered two portraits to the museum, one of Austin Peay and one of his wife, Sallie Hurst Peay, as well as his sterling silver dining set.

The committee voted to accept the portraits and sterling silver dining set.

Judge Peay also offered a biography of Austin Peay. However, it makes more sense that it should be accepted as a donation to the library, rather than the museum's permanent collection.

5. **Thomas Herndon's Civil War Diary** --This diary, offered by Katherine Starr Kaiser, was kept by Thomas J. Herndon, an officer in Company L of the 14th Tennessee Regiment who was captured on the first day of the battle of Gettysburg and sent to a prison camp for Confederate officers on Johnson's Island, Ohio. After his release, he made his way back to Montgomery County on foot. The diary contains his observations on life as a prisoner of war and his journey to Clarksville after his release.

The committee voted to accept.

Motion to approve items recommended
for accession by Committee:
Motion to 2nd:
All Approved

Kell Black
Dan Black

- D. **Marketing/Membership Committee:** Brendalyn Player reported: The committee met February 11, 2025.

1. **Membership** -- In January, we had 92 new members (Dec/50), 76 renewals in (Dec/55). Total household memberships were 1,284 and total individual memberships were 2,142.
2. **Black History Film** -- Reel Stories: Black History Film and discussion (Feb 8) "Stamped from the Beginning" had about 90 registrants and 50 attendees. BLK Clarksville provided popcorn and copies of the book to the first 50 attendees. Potential partnership next year.
3. **Black History Month** -- Look for posts on the CHM FB page every Tuesday.
4. **Mt. Olive Cemetery Historical Preservation Society Presentation** -- CHM, Matthew Sarnelli, Curator of Collections supported the Mt. Olive Cemetery Historical Preservation Society presentation of "Tennessee African American & Labor" at Fort Defiance in observance of Black History Month, Feb.15.
5. **Marketing Team** -- Shana Thornton and Myranda Harrison attended the Fort Campbell Community Calendar Sync meeting, on February 18, an opportunity to strengthen our partnership and collaborative efforts.

Spring events planned:

1. The "I Love My Museum" Campaign -- May 12-17. CHM's goal is to raise \$10,000 for the new Creation Station, replacing the Coca-Cola Café, removing booths, and making it a more flexible use space. This aligns with the museum-wide effort to create flexible use-income generating opportunities including plans for the theater.
2. The campaign culminates on May 17 with an ice cream social in partnership with Golly G's

- Golly G's will have a signature CHM Flavor, Copper Roof Sundae (pistachio base with chocolate-covered almonds and a swirl of chocolate fudge), and other options and flavors like sorbet and sweet buttercream.
- Announce the results of the "I Love My Museum" Campaign

Spring issue of 2nd and Commerce published:

- **History on the Rocks** is March 4 at Old Glory Distillery, 5:30 – 7 pm. Featured topics:
 - Clarksville Writers Conference, Cresta McGowan, APSU Middle College Instructor
 - APSU Professor Karen Bullis, Award-winning Girls Flag Football Documentary
 - Jana Gilbert/Michelle Turner talking about Unbannable Books, featuring a commentary on Margaret Atwood's "The Handmaid's Tale."
 - Historic Farms (possibly Darwin/Tony Eldridge)

Upcoming:

- **March 2, Sundays at 3:00**, The Cumberland River — An American Legacy with Larry Richardson, Artist, Author, Naturalist. Larry will discuss the significance of riverine history and its impact on the Cumberland River valley inhabitants. He will highlight the goals of conserving and protecting the valuable natural resources of the river and its tributaries.
- **First Thursday Art Walk**, 5-8 pm Thursday, March 6

E. **Nominating Committee:** No Report

F. **Guild Committee:** Channing Grimes reported:

1. Flying High 2025 – August 9, 2025, at Oak Grove Racing, Gaming & Hotel
 - a. Band has been selected.
 - b. Florist Bids will go out soon.
 - c. Sponsor Packets will go out next month.

V. **Old Business:** No Report

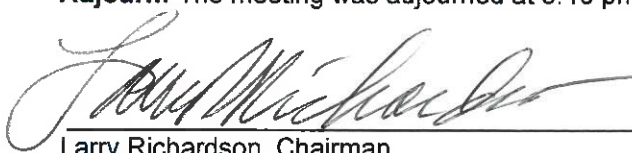
VI. **New Business:** No Report

VII. **Announcements:** Carolyn Ferrell reported:

1. Dunlop Mansion – The vote will be part of the next City Council Meeting

VIII. **Executive Session:** No Report

IX. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.


Larry Richardson, Chairman


Jane Olson, Secretary