

Cayce Historical Museum Complex Commission Meeting – March 5, 2013

Members present: Mary Sharpe, Lynn Summer, Cindy Peake, AG Dantzler, Ann Diamond,
Archie Moore, and Alice Brooks Executive Director: Leo Redmond

Special Guest: Rebecca Rhodes, Cayce City Manager

Members absent: Marion Hutson (excused), Scott Morgan (excused)

- Commission Chairperson Sharpe called the meeting to order,
- Commissioner Summer offered the invocation.
- Commissioner Summer moved that the minutes from the February 5th meeting be approved. Commissioner Peake seconded and the vote was unanimous.
- Chairperson Sharpe began the meeting by introducing City Manager Rebecca Rhodes and welcoming her to the meeting. She then called on Director Redmond for an update on Museum operating issues.
- Director Redmond reported:
 - The FY 13-14 Budget was officially submitted on March 4th. The Museum Complex has asked for a modest advancement for the Director's salary.
 - Commissioner Hutson contacted Rudy Mancke and Commissioner Brooks contacted Jim Welch regarding the Museum's nature trails and the naming of same. These gentlemen are not only well-known locally, but well-regarded in PBS circles nationally. They are the award winning producers of ETV's NatureScene. Both Mancke and Welch are honored to be contacted by the Museum and are thrilled with this proposed project. Commissioner Brooks suggested making a public relations event out of this at some point when we are ready to announce the new trails. Welch has even indicated an interest in filming a project for the Museum.
 - The City's new website (in development now) will not only feature the Museum Complex, but devote several section tabs that will allow us to post information on exhibits, history, gift shop, events, Saxe Gotha Historical Society and Friends of the Museum, as well as videos and links to a separate site that will allow e-commerce transactions for Saxe Gotha.
- Director Redmond asked Rebecca Rhodes to comment on other issues of interest to the Museum.
 - Planned History Park – Ms. Rhodes reported that representatives of City Council, City of Cayce, SCANA, the River Alliance, County Council, the Lexington Recreation Commission, and others have been meeting; most recently last week. SCANA owns the property and is putting in the trails and other infrastructure. When this is concluded, they want to donate the property to a nonprofit “partnership” to maintain it and further develop it.

- SCANA has asked for a partnership outline and proposal for this by September, so Cayce officials (taking the lead in this group) and reps of the above-mentioned other entities have their work cut out for them.
 - The City is aware of some SCANA officials' desire to have the Museum complex as a major part of this park, but Ms. Rhodes feels this won't even come into discussion until much later, when other issues have been ironed out.
 - The National Park Service will be here in late April to work on the "interpretation" section of the Park. This is excellent news and everyone is very excited about the impact of this.
 - The large group (above-mentioned) will continue to work on the myriad details that must be addressed in addition to how the future nonprofit partnership will be structured.
 - Security will be a huge issue for future operations and maintenance.
 - Rhodes stressed that maintaining the quality and integrity of the effort is paramount to Cayce City Council members and City officials because this will be a reflection on our City.
- Phase IV, Cayce Riverwalk – will soon be completed and will connect to the History Park trails.
- Possible relocation of Cayce City Hall – Ms. Rhodes reported that an architectural study had been done on the present buildings. The old buildings are not only not up to code, but building additions and expansion are probably out of the question due to flood plain issues.
 - City Council asked Ms. Rhodes to research other possible sites for expansion. She has compiled a report and will present three-to-four site possibilities this month. She has no idea what future direction she will be given, at this point.
 - Ms. Rhodes stressed, however, that even if City Hall, per se, moves to another location, the current complex will not be abandoned. There is still a great need for housing the Public Safety components as well as other City services. The buildings will be re-purposed to continue the best workings for the City.
 - No negative impact is expected for the Historical Museum Complex.
- Ms. Rhodes also reported on other exciting and potentially enterprising developments in the works for the City and took questions from Commissioners.
- Chairman Sharpe and Commissioner Summer had just attended a B-C Foundation event and told Ms. Rhodes that everyone was very complimentary of City officials and the direction the City is taking.
- Commissioners expressed our genuine gratitude to Ms. Rhodes for attending the meeting, for her excellent presentation, and for being so forthcoming about City matters. Ms. Rhodes and Mayor Partin and other Commissioners are invited to any and all Museum Commission meetings.

- Director Redmond resumed his report by presenting a printout of a website that rates attractions of cities, states, communities. The number one attraction listed for the City of Cayce is the Historical Museum Complex. Commissioners were pleased to read the visitor comments that were included in the printout and view this as validation of our work.
- Redmond reminded Commissioners that the City of Cayce Centennial Celebration will be September, 2014, and the Museum should be an integral part of this. For instance, the “time capsule” that Museum founders buried 25 years ago (at the Museum’s origin and starting point) will be unearthed during the Centennial.
 - Commissioner Moore suggested we kick this off at Christmas Traditions 2013 and help observe and promote the City’s Centennial in the months leading up to the event.
 - Commissioners Summer and Brooks pointed out the theme we selected in January (Christmas Traditions Past, Present, and Future) will lend itself nicely to this effort.
 - Commission Chair Sharpe asked all Commissioners to think of other ways and events the Museum could undertake to help promote and celebrate the City’s Centennial. She asked for ideas by the next meeting.

There being no further business, Commissioner Dantzler moved to adjourn. Commissioner Summer seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Brooks, Commission Secretary

CC: Museum Commission Chair Mary Love Sharpe and Museum Complex Commissioners
Leo Redmond, Museum Complex Director
City of Cayce Mayor and City Council Members
City of Cayce Manager and other officials as required