

Historic Carter House Society Inc.
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2022

Linda Simoneaux, called to order the meeting of Historic Carter House Society Inc. (HCHS) held at 30325 Carter Cemetery Road, Springfield, LA at 1:41 PM.

Attendance: Judy Sharp, Linda Simoneaux, Chasity Chauvin, Susan Phillips, Valerie Willman, Christina Volion and Cailee Volion.

Minutes

The May 14, 2022, meeting minutes were emailed to board and handled out at meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes – Susan Phillips

Second – Chasity Chauvin

Approved by All

Financial Report

Financial Income Statement through June 30,2022 was presented.

Motion to approve the financial with one correction. Venmo

Transaction Fee will be removed from Income and shown as an expense

– Valerie Willman

Second – Linda Simoneaux

Approved by All

The July 4th Coke Fundraising raised \$165.89 profit.

Carter House Repairs Status – Vickie, Judy and Linda

Repairs were to start after July 4. It rained on Tuesday and work has not yet started.

The board approved at the May 14, 2022, meeting, the repair work for the following work items.

Dormers - Accepted Ferguson Renovations approximate bid per Damage Inventory Spreadsheet of \$1500. The cost now is \$4550 due to some changes that were made to original bid.

Sunroom – Accepted Ferguson Renovations approximate bid per Damage Inventory Spreadsheet of \$1000. The cost now is \$5000.

After seeing the detailed breakdown of repairs from the Insurance Company (International Programs Group) and knowing the quality of work done by Ferguson Renovations, the board decided to proceed.

**Motion to approve the new quote from Ferguson Renovations for the work on the dormers and sunroom made by Linda Simoneaux
Second – Valerie Willman
Approved by All**

Discussion on proceeding to use the Insurance to repair the roof. The board received bids to replace the roof with three different materials (Slate, Metal and Shingles that look like slate).

Linda Simoneaux will check with Emily Ardoin, National Register Coordinator, Division of Historic Preservation for a contact who could verify which materials should be used to replace the existing roof.

Judy Sharp would like Ferguson Renovations to repair any other items on the Damage Inventory Spreadsheet list that needs to be repaired using the scaffolding or elevated platform he will rent for the dormers. Linda Simoneaux will check with him and get updated bids for the additional work.

FEMA/State Grants – Vickie

Vickie was unable to attend this meeting. Work with FEMA and the State is still progressing.

HCHS Phone – Judy/Linda

Linda advised that the 3G service to end 12/31/22. Phone must be upgraded at that time. Judy will get with Charlie Robinson to move phone from his Verizon Account.

Discussion on which cellular company to use. To have any account for the HCHS with Verizon or AT&T will be expensive. We discussed Boost, T Mobile or other low-cost carriers and it was decided they are not as reliable. Judy has AT&T service and is willing to transfer the line to her phone service. This would be the cheapest alternative for HCHS phone service at this time. She will get with Charlie and see about having the phone line moved and having phone upgraded to one on the 4G or 5G networks.

Venmo- Linda

Linda said the Venmo app appears to be working well. It has the lowest fees (1.9% + \$.10) per transaction of any of the other apps.

Constant Contact - Chasity

Chasity called Constant Contact and worked out a problem she was having with adding our PayPal account. This has now been resolved.

Cost of Constant Contacts were discussed and are as follows:

Monthly charge of \$9.99 for 0-500 contacts. Nonprofits who pay a year in advance get a 30% discount.

Credit cards can now be used for our events. Charge for credit card is:

Constant Contact Charge is 2.5% + \$.50

WePay Charge is 2.9% + \$.30

Total Credit Card Charge is 5.4% + \$.80

Charges for PayPal

PayPal Charges are 3.49% + \$0.49

Constant Contact charges 2.5% + \$.50

Constant Contact also charges an Event Platform Fee

Fee is 2.5% + \$.50

Chasity believes all these fees can be set to be paid by the customer (similar to what Ticketmaster does).

People attending our events can still use Venmo or pay by cash or check.

Motion made by Linda to proceed to trial Constant Contact for one year and determine if the cost is worth the product.

Second by Susan.

Approved by all

Landscaping Lighting

Judy has contacted Mike Albright with Accent Lighting. We are waiting for him to call back with a date and time to come do the work. At the time he makes the repairs to get the lights working again, we also want to replace the fixtures at all of the columns with LED.

Motion to proceed with having the repair and replacement to LEDs done.

Seconded by Valerie

Furniture – Judy & Linda

Discussion to move furniture around due to the additional pieces of furniture donated by Beverly Burgess. Also remove the PA system from the kitchen dining area and move small cabinet into that space. Mover will be needed to move some of the furniture.

Teddy Bear Tea Fundraiser – Lead Christina Volion

Air Pots & Teas

Christina's husband works for Community Coffee who will donate to us 8 Air Pots to use for the Coffee and Teas. He can also furnish us with Earl Gray and English Breakfast Teas.

Three-tiered Cake Plates

Discussion on how to serve sandwiches. Cailee said the English Tea Room in Covington had three-tiered Cake plates with Sandwiches, pastries, desserts. We thought this was a wonderful idea to have on each table.

Tablecloths & other items

Valerie to check on pricing with S+W Wholesale in Hammond for tablecloths and other items we may need.

Highchairs

It was decided we would not provide highchairs for babies.

Bears

Valerie showed the Barrington Gingerbread Teddy Bear she found at Faire for \$10 each. Faire requires a minimum purchase of 20 bears.

At present we have 30 kids signed up. We will order 20 to see if we like them. If not they can be returned.

For the Babies, Valerie showed the Baby 1st Christmas Wee Blanket at Faire for \$5 each. Faire requires a minimum purchase of 2 bears.

At present we have 7 babies signed up.

Judy sent some bears that Kristin found for \$2 and \$3 from China. Linda suggested we order a couple to see how well they are made.

Activities

Valerie found online a couple of coloring pages we can print for the kids to color.

Colors – Linda purchased 40 packs of 24 and Valerie purchased 20 packs.

Teaddy Bear Bingo – Valerie printed a bingo card we can have run off for the kids to play. Linda will borrow the chips from the CPCA bingo supplies.

Picture Frames – Linda will order from Oriental Trading

Sweets

Linda had sent a text to Mariah Hyde and did not hear back from her. Susan said Mariah posed on her Facebook page on 6/13 that she will no longer be taking order. Valerie knows someone who lives in Carter who can make sweets.

NEW BUSINESS

This year we have been lucky to have two people donate \$1000 to the Carter House.

**Montion to establish a Lifetime Membership for people who donate \$1000 to the HCHS and present the Lifetime Memberships to John & Juda Schell and Genice & Thomas Shruden for their generous donations by Linda
Seconded by Susan
Approved by All**

Meeting Adjourned

3:33 PM