



MINUTES
ONE MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION
Board of Directors Meeting
Cascade American Legion
November 19th, 2008

Acting Chairman Gary Muller was ill and was unable to attend the meeting. Secretary Kim Harbaugh filled in as Chair of the meeting, calling the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following Board members were present: Jamie Bowders, John Miller, Jim Bittner, Alice Humphrey, Nina Rouzer, Bill Carter, Jeff Coyle, Heather Bodnar and Randy Humphrey.

Absent Board members: Helen Mency, Mary Esta Scruggs, Carla Warren and Donnie Forrest.

Foundation members and guests included: Phyllis Presley, Alicia Miller, Joan Fry, Becky Dietrich, Mike MacDonald and Mike Green.

Secretary's Report

Minutes from the October meeting were reviewed. Jamie clarified that the amounts in the checkbook from the October meeting minutes included the expenses from the Civil War Seminar. The grant money from Pennsylvania for that seminar is still outstanding. Bill motioned to accept the secretary's report and Randy seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Jamie Bowders presented the treasurer's report. The OMF checkbook balance is \$470.28. The Mountaintop Heritage Days checkbook has a balance of \$232.47. So far this year there has been income of \$46,129.14 with expenses of \$41,167.18. Bill motioned to accept the treasurer's report and Jim seconded the motion.

Mountaintop Heritage Days Committee

Jeff reported that the MTHD Committee has decided to downsize the events for 2009. They are currently planning the event for Fort Ritchie. A great deal of money was spent last year for the two weekend event, so the 2009 event will be one weekend. The fireworks are already scheduled for June 27th, 2009 at Fort Ritchie. Jeff said several ideas have been discussed for next year, which includes a kickoff parade in Blue Ridge Summit and a 5K run, along with the vendors on the parade field at Fort Ritchie. Construction is scheduled for the new baseball field and soccer fields on the parade field, but a schedule has not been set. Jeff encouraged anyone who wants to help or would like to add their input to attend the meetings the second Wednesday of the month at the Cascade American Legion. There will be no December meeting, so the next meeting will be on January 14th, 2009 at 7pm.

Heritage Development Committee

John Miller reported that the Fall Roundtable event was successful. There were 73 participants and

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John and Alicia provided the results from the participant evaluation sheets, which outlined the participants' overall opinions of the seminar. He recommended having a seminar once a year, because of the time it takes to plan the seminar and the schedule of other events in our area. The entire \$5,000 grant was not used for this seminar, but Jamie said they have from June 2008 until June 2009 to spend the grant money.

Museum Committee

Board members and foundation members attended the PenMar Development Corporation Board of Directors meeting on November 10th. The PMDC board had previously voted to develop a RFP (Request for Proposal) for the development of the museum. This RFP would be distributed nationally to encourage other organizations to submit a proposal for managing and operating the museum at Fort Ritchie. The One Mountain Foundation Museum Committee had already begun working on the museum development therefore attendance was needed to understand PMDC and their intentions. Rich Rook invited Mary Alexander from the Maryland Historical Trust to explain to the PMDC Board how museums are created and sustained. Mary has 40 years of museum experience and works with the Museum Assistance Program that assists new museums and provides technical assistance to these projects.

Mary explained how the museum is normally created and sustained, through private funds, grants from the state, county and other funds, but she stressed these funds are normally very limited due to fierce competition from other museums. She provided an amount of \$350,000 to sustain the museum for one year, including salary. She described other avenues of revenue, including fundraisers and lectures similar to the Civil War roundtable OMF held in November.

John and Kari have already begun research on the collections guidelines, mission statement and by-laws. They will wait for the PMDC decision before continuing their research. Nina recommended staying in touch with Jack Simpson from the PMDC board.

Nominating Committee

Kim gave the Nominating Committee report regarding the chair and vice-chair vacancies.

The Nominating Committee of Bill Carter, Nina Rouzer and Kim Harbaugh met on November 6th, 2008 to prepare a list of nominees for the vacancies of the Chair and Vice-Chair on the Board of Directors.

Kim had emailed the Board on October 29th and again on November 4th requesting interest or nominees for the vacant positions of Chair and Vice-Chair. There was very limited response to this request; therefore the Committee discussed its options for a smooth transition for our organization.

Bill Carter expressed his interest in the Vice-Chair position.

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The Nominating Committee discussed the possibility of electing Gary Muller back to the Board for one more year as Chair. Bill would assume the Vice-Chair position in coordination with Gary to acclimate himself to the Board, its members and its projects.

As a result of our meeting, the following recommendations were made:

- Accept the resignation of Donnie Forrest from the Board of Directors
- Accept the resignation of Carla Warren from the Board of Directors
- Nominate Bill Carter to the Vice-Chair position
- Nominate Gary Muller to the Board of Directors for one year and to the Chair position for one year
- Nominate 2 Board members to the Executive Committee, which currently includes the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer (nominees can possibly be a Chair of other committees). The use of the Executive Committee could expedite decisions and shorten the monthly Board of Directors meetings.
- List the one vacant Board position (from the board resignation) on the One Mountain Foundation website and notify members of the vacancy for possible interest

As a result of the Nominating Committee report the Board accepted the resignation of Donnie Forrest and Carla Warren from the Board of Directors. The Board then discussed and elected Bill Carter to the Vice-Chair position. The Board discussed electing Gary back to the board and to the Chair position for one year. Kim, Nina, and Bill explained they had discussed this with Gary and he said he would stay another year since the Chair and Vice Chair positions were both vacant. The Nominating Committee felt this was the best decision since the One Mountain Foundation currently has many projects and responsibilities. The Board agreed and voted unanimously for Gary to return to the Board and the Chair position for one year.

John Miller and Jeff Coyle were nominated and elected to the Executive Committee. The Board voted to post the vacant Board position on the One Mountain Foundation website. Nominees and volunteers will be discussed at the next meeting in January.

Old Business

Heather inquired about the business advertisements and community calendar ideas for the website. The Board voted to table this decision until the January meeting. Heather will work on fees for the ads. She also reminded Jamie that the domain name will need to be renewed by February.

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Jamie and Jeff discussed the problems they are encountering with the MTHD bingo at the Blue Ridge Summit Fire Hall. They will see how this month's bingo goes before deciding to continue.

Nina reminded everyone that the 2009 calendars are on sale and we need to sell them.

New Business

Mike MacDonald and Mike Green attended the meeting to discuss their idea of a haunted house at Fort Ritchie for 2009. The proceeds would be split between MTHD and Sons of the American Legion. Mike MacDonald has been doing this event at his house for several years and it draws about 600+ people. He also won the NBC25 Haunted House Award. Their idea for Fort Ritchie would utilize the old mess hall which is now simply an open space. They have received permission and met with Bill Hofmann of COPT and toured the building. The building has no electricity and would need the use of generators for the event. The fire marshal will need to make a site visit and give a permit before any work could be started. The event would run for about six weeks, similar to the Leitersburg Haunted House that closed a few years ago. When the Leitersburg Haunted House was open it had collected proceeds of approximately \$50,000. This event would be run completely by volunteers and volunteers would be needed to construct the sets. Jeff pointed out that in Washington County a student is required to complete 75 hours of community service. These students could be used as volunteers, as well as Victor Cullen students. Jeff also recommended getting the word out by using the Hagerstown Community College email list. Jamie explained that this event could be added to the OMF insurance policy as the other MTHD events have been added in the past.

The Board asked Jeff, Mike MacDonald and Mike Green to contact the fire marshal and request a site visit and report back to the board in January.

Kim adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

There will not be a December 2008 Board of Directors meeting.

Next OMF meeting: January 28th, 7 pm, Cascade American Legion

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Harbaugh
Secretary

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