

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
HELD
May 2, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:14p
Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

MEMBERS PRESENT: No roll call was taken for quorum criteria

OLD BUSINESS

- March 7, 2009 General Membership Meeting Minutes read by Secretary.
 - One correction noted – strike Tom Berlucahi from By Law Committee
 - Motion to accept the March 7, 2009 minutes w/ corrections
 - 2nded – **APPROVED**

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Tom Berlucahi gave report due to Will Eichler's absence:
 - Actual account figures were not recorded from bank
 - Estimated Total: Approximately \$10,000 total
 - Full account information will be posted in the next Fort Journal.
 - Amber Sitko, in a volunteer hour matching program with Microsoft generated a \$187.00 check for her volunteer hours.
 - Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report – 2nded - **APPROVED**

PROJECTS REPORT

- Bob Hovansian gave report in the absence of Rich Napier
 - Successful progress of the workdays and 2009 as a whole.
 - Many windows have been repaired with minimal volunteer assistance.
 - It has taken approximately 40 man-hours to complete one window sash for reinstallation.
 - Approximately 63 windows in the front, 70 in the back.
 - Want to training people willing to learn the trade.
 - Window restoration will take at least a year to complete.
 - Finished the fascia on the front of the Commandant's House porch
 - The 17th Michigan and the Colonial Dames have funded the Commandant's House back porch project
 - The Commandant's House projects will be tackled after the casemate covers and the Spanish American Guardhouse projects have been completed.
 - "Wrap-a-Roof" Program
 - Dale Jones acquired through Lamar signs old vinyl signage that will be used to wrap the roofs of at risk buildings.

(Projects Report Cont.)

- It will require 2 sheets per roof and will utilize Joe Rebandt's lift truck for installation
 - This will stabilize buildings from water intrusion
 - Will help with site partnership and provide good stewardship.
- 2009 Project Overview
 - Complete outstanding projects is 1st priority
 - By June 1 or 2 pieces of plywood in windows will be left
 - Analyze Commandant's House for all work
 - Roof, porch, paint
- Motion to accept the Projects Report – 2nd – **APPROVED**

GROUNDS REPORT

- Continuing working on trees removal
 - Trees in the Dry Moat area
 - Fallen trees in recent storm on Officer's Row and Indian burial mound
 - 6 stumps need removal
 - Joe Rebandt provided cost estimate to Tom B.
 - Joe Rebandt to continue dropping hazardous trees.
- Spanish American Guardhouse yard is full of wood and log splitter
 - Approximately 8 face cord of wood needs to be split.
 - Tom B to ensure that the 1848 Barracks firebox is full.
- Fence line by Bldg 314 has holes in it.
 - 12 light posts stored there have been cut up by scavengers
 - Grounds will use bailing wire to repair the fence holes.
- Lawn cutting service has started!
 - Detroit General Services will be cutting grass, but we will need to assist.
- Grounds Committee Workdays
 - Meet at Fort every Wednesday from 5pm until dark.
- Big Boy Fundraiser
 - Grounds Committee hosted fundraiser at Big Boy
 - Generated \$276.00
 - Tom B had a pie in the face TWICE by his mother-in-law
- Help is Needed!
- Further motions to accept Committee reports suspended at this time.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- The 3 leases for Fort Wayne by the National Parks Service have been renewed to the City.
 - 1 lease is still in progress
 - Changed the designation of Fort Wayne from Historical military museum to park.
 - Minor development to occur at Fort Wayne
 - NOT casinos
 - Education programs that will bring funding through these programs.
 - The City is committed to Fort Wayne.
- The 2009/2010 Mayor's budget has \$200,000 for Fort Wayne stabilization.
 - Does not include \$500,000 for Parks and Rec Capital Repair funds
 - 1st building to be improved is the Visitor's Center.
 - Heating/Cooling and Electrical improvements.
 - Makes this building leasable.
 - Parking Lot lights to be fixed.
 - 1848 Barracks to be repaired and painted.
 - Slows deterioration and decay by sealing
 - Possible use for roof repairs.
- Federal Stimulus Package
 - Tom B put in for \$150,000 for windows
 - When money is received, we will have 90 days to use it.
 - \$150,000 has been requested to assist the Randolph School program.
 - Hire professional instructors
 - HFWC would receive 6% of this as site fiduciary to utilize
 1. This includes money donated to the City for Fort Wayne.
- Detroit Parks and Recreation Leadership Turnover
 - Edie Worthy has been promoted to Health Dept.
 - Tom B said he would miss this positive relationship.
 - Alecia Mentor is now filling in as Interim Parks and Rec director
 - She is committed to Fort and education programs.
- HFWC / City of Detroit Relationship
 - We will continue to work with the city and other organizations to keep the fort open.
 - The city knows the efforts of the HFWC.
 - We will show people the work that has been accomplished, (i.e knee high grass, painting, casemates, windows.)
 - The HFWC are the workers.

(Chairman's Report Cont.)

- Fort Wall Update
 - Water Intrusion
 - Dug up a portion of the fort wall base and found cracks in the walls.
 - Water intrusion is causing the walls to fail
 - Sandra from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will help to repair and stabilize the walls.
 - Fellow HFWC members made contact with Sandra.
 - Tom B and Dave Jamroz went to the Historical Conference where J Michael Kurt gave a seminar.
 - Mr. Kurt will walk through with Tom and Dave to help develop mitigation phases for the walls.
- Detroit Mayoral Election
 - City is in a transitional period
 - Both candidates have stated their commitment to the Fort
- Status of the Fort
 - The HFWC is moving in the right direction and the Fort is still the city's responsibility – 89 acres and 46 + structures.
 - If stimulus money comes to the Fort
 - Professionals will do the Re-roofing and windows restoration
 - Upgrade drainage around the Fort
 - Flea Market weekend the sewer backed up in the bowling alley and destroyed it.
 - The debris needs to be removed.
 - Headquarters building boiler was shutoff and the 3rd floor pipes burst.
 - Water ran in the building for 2 weeks.
 - 2 weeks prior to the Christmas at the Fort event (Dec 2008) a water main broke between the 1894 barracks and Visitor's Center.
 - The leak was fixed last month.
 - The HFWC is the eyes and ears of the City at Fort Wayne for threat, damage and repair.
 - We will be the squeaky wheel to get things done.
 - Joe Rebandt identified a water leak in the Indian museum across from Bldg 112.
 - Valve needs to be located and water needs to be shut off.
 - This is an ongoing maintenance report.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bob Griebe had flags donated to the HFWC by the Warren Elks club.
 - These flags are all the historical U.S. flags
 - 7 total were donated and were shown to the present membership.

(New Business Cont.)

- Flea Market Weekend
 - The HFWC located an original brogan (shoe) in the 1848 barracks attic with name identification.
 - The shoe was taken to the CRC to be displayed at CW Days.
 - Other shoes/burner stove and military undergarments were also found.
 - The original flagstaff from Fort Shelby will also be displayed at CW Days.
 - All discovered items are in the CRC.
- Fort Journal
 - The publication is attempting a comeback and May is the tentative date for release of the newest edition.

EVENTS

- Tom B asked volunteers to come out and support events.
- Davison Middle School Event – May 8, 2009
 - 9:30am –2pm
 - Needs reenactors especially
 - 254 students parents and staff
 - brown bag lunches for students
 - 16th Mich / USS Michigan Marines are coming with wooden rifles
 - Approximate donation to be \$1144 to the HFWC.
- Requests are increasing for Monday – Thursday Fort visitation
 - Tom B will give a tour session for those interested to accommodate this schedule and need for more available tour guides.
- Richards Middle School – June 6-7, 2009
 - Volunteers are needed for any project.
 - The school donated \$2500 to the HFWC last year.
 - Jennifer Roberts from the City will sign certificates for the students for last year's donation.
 - Recognition plaques will be mounted on the casemate covers, which the donated money was used.
 - Reenactors will be fed lunch
 - School said students are very excited!
 - Ross Fowler offered to bring his 102 USCT memorabilia
 - Dioramas of June 12, 1864 and November 1864 action

(May 2, 2009 HFWC General Membership Meeting Minutes Cont.)

(Events Cont.)

- Contact Doris Julian if you want to volunteer or if you have questions.
- Vintage Baseball
 - Spectators are encouraged to attend the games.
- Car Show
 - Dave Demopoulos is coordinating this event
 - Volunteers needed.
- Motion made to adjourn meeting – 2nded.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 2:20p

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Steele
Executive Secretary
Historic Fort Wayne Coalition

APPROVED
August 22, 2009