

MINUTES

Oconee County Arts & Historical Commission

July 9, 2015

5:00 PM

Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina

Members Present: Luther Lyle, Jeannie Dobson, Barbara Waters, Betty Borman, Phil Shirley (Ex-Officio)

Observing: Ray Chandler

Luther Lyle called the meeting to order at 5:25 PM.

Minutes were approved with minor changes.

Old Business

- Mr. Shirley recapped the A & H BUDGET figures: \$7500 has been approved by Council for projects approved by the Arts & Historical Commission. In addition, \$21,295 is available based upon the dissolution of Region I of the Heritage Corridor. Therefore, the sum of \$28,795 is available for the commission to distribute in grants. Previously, the commission decided that the following projects deserved support: erecting historical markers; encouraging cultural activities; reprinting publications/sponsoring a literary magazine; displaying art in public places, and promoting awareness and appreciation of art and history in Oconee County.
- Mr. Shirley has access to a list of historical markers in Oconee County which can be shared on the WEB.
- Mr. Lyle reported that some maps and other brochures are out of stock. He wants to be sure that all publications are carefully proofread before being mass produced. (This was not the case the last time an expensive map was printed.) Mrs. Dobson added that if printed materials are not accurate, especially maps, they have a negative effect on the way that visitors perceive Oconee County.

- Mrs. Borman and Mrs. Dobson will discuss options for introducing the grants to the community, possible at a reception for interested grant writers.

New Business

- Mr. Shirley declared that the A & H Commission must be stringent about adhering to the process of awarding grants after careful examination of the **Grant Applications.** He distributed sample applications for the commission to peruse. The commission modified Page 4. Mr. Shirley will see that application form is revised prior to distribution.
- Mr. Lyle requested that commission members consider the needs of the Museum of the Cherokee in South Carolina. Grant funds could possibly cover roof repairs and \$29,000 for 16 display cases. A discussion ensued. Mr. Shirley reiterated that specific information must be submitted in an application before any funds are released.
- Mr. Lyle reported that more visitors would come to the Museum of the Cherokee if additional staff could be available. Mr. Shirley suggested that the Veterans Museum, the Cherokee Museum and the Heritage Center might join forces in petitioning for a docent to be shared. (More discussion needed.)
- Mrs. Dobson suggested that Mr. Lyle post a sign-up sheet to collect signatures of visitors who came to the museum, but were turned away because of the scant hours that it is open.
- Mr. Lyle motioned that the commission meet on Thursday, August 13th at 5:00 at the Cherokee Museum. Second by Mrs. Borman.

Adjourn: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05

Respectfully Submitted:

Jeannie Dobson

Secretary, Arts & Historical Commission