

**MINUTES**  
Historic Commission Minutes  
June 15, 2021  
Leawood City Hall

**Present:** April Bishop, Janet O’Neal, Clara Van Draska, Alice Hawk, Rick Hadel, Dan Throckmorton, Council Liaison Jim Rawlings and Staff Liaison Holly York.

April Bishop called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.

**Minutes**

Alice Hawk moved and Janet O’Neal seconded the motion for approval of the minutes from the April 6, 2021 meeting of the Historic Commission. All approved.

**Finance Report**

Alice Hawk reported there is \$3,328.78 in the Historic Commission account. Alice moved and Clara seconded the motion to accept the financial report as given. The financial report was accepted.

**Old Business**

**Linwood Cemetery**

Denise Bullock from the DAR was unable to attend the meeting. April shared that the DAR continues to research and clean up the pioneer cemetery. They did not receive a grant for future improvements to the cemetery. They continue to search for a sponsor for that project. The annual DAR’s Day of Service will be in October.

**Historic Interviews**

Janet, Clara, and April have conducted many interviews. April shared the story of Steve Ingram, a life-long Leawood resident whose father was a doctor and fireman. He also said there was a women’s auxiliary group that assisted the firefighters. Clara also interviewed U.S Senator Tim Kaine (VA), who grew up in the area.

**Historic Oxford Schoolhouse**

April reported that the Docents are currently volunteering in the schoolhouse on Sundays for the summer months. The schoolmarm works Tuesday-Saturday. Holly York shared that the schoolmarm is Anna Monroe who is studying Secondary Education with a History Minor at Avila University. Holly also reported the roof will be repaired in a few spots. In addition, she mentioned that she is working on getting a cradle for the donated schoolhouse bell that had belonged to Blue Valley School at 151<sup>st</sup> & Mission Road.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

April clarified that 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary event ideas, such as dances or parades, should be relayed to the Leawood Foundation. Historical event ideas should be reported to the Historic Commission. Members are encouraged to think about programs and events for the anniversary year. April said that it is too early to tell which events would be fundraisers for the new museum. Send ideas for historical events for 2023 to April and other celebratory ideas to Alice.

Holly reported that Katherine Bontrager Houlehan has been selected as the author for the history book chronicling Leawood from 1997-2023. Katherine is a life-long Leawood resident with a Masters in Journalism from Northwestern University. She has written for several local publications including Look to Leawood. Katherine is currently reaching out to various City committees to hear what they would like to see included in the book.

## **New Business**

### **Historic Articles**

Jim Huxtable has been researching the old farmhouse next to Leawood Presbyterian Church. Rick Hadel has been reading through Tom Leather's articles via the Johnson County History website. April also mentioned that the archives at the County library have reopened. Members of the commission have made progress on their articles.

### **Plaque for Schoolhouse**

April reported that Beverly Hurley, who was involved in restoring the schoolhouse, would like a plaque at the schoolhouse. The information would include the dedication date, city council members, commissioners, etc. Alice moved and Rick seconded the motion for a plaque at the Oxford Schoolhouse. All approved. The current donor plaque also needs to be replaced.

Dan Throckmorton brought up historic plaques on historic Leawood homes. April suggested referencing a past survey and contacting the homeowners to gauge their interest in a historic plaque. Dan will research costs of small plaques.

### **96<sup>th</sup> and Lee Report**

Jim Rawlings announced that the plans for the new fire station have been approved. Construction of the foundation will begin before winter. Other plans for the property will happen after the fire station is built.

### **Covid-19 Report**

April reported that City Hall is open. The Historic Commission will continue to meet at City Hall. Holly said that masks are encouraged to be worn in public facilities. The Lodge has capacity restrictions until September.

### **Upcoming Events**

April reported the following:

- Leawood Stage Company is producing Seussical. The performance dates are July 9-11 & 15-17.
- She has been asked to be the secretary for the Johnson County Heritage Foundation.
- The next Native Sons and Daughters marker dedication is the old Board of Trade building at 49<sup>th</sup> and Main on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Holly reported the following:

- Cinema in the City will feature family movies at the amphitheater behind City Hall. The Little Rascals is rescheduled for June 25 and Babe on July 30 at dusk.
- Art summer camps started this week with great enrollment. Camp was highlighted on Fox 4 morning news.

- Grinnin' and Groovin' concert series for children will be Tuesdays in June at Ironwoods Amphitheater at 9:30am.
- Schoolhouse Tales will start Wednesdays in July at the Oxford Schoolhouse.
- A special children's concert by Latin Grammy winner 123 Andres will be held on August 21 at Ironwoods Amphitheater at 6:00pm.
- Summer Sounds Concert Series features the band Everyday Strangers on August 13 at 6:30pm and the KC Latin Jazz All-Stars on August 27 at 6:30pm at the amphitheater behind City Hall.
- Touch-a-Truck and Truckin in the Park is combined on September 18<sup>th</sup> for City Park(ed).
- The Fourth of July event is moving forward with fireworks, music, balloon artists, and food trucks.

**Next meeting: Wednesday, August 18 at 4:30pm at Leawood City Hall.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:26pm

Submitted by: Holly York, Cultural Arts Supervisor