**Camp Blount Historic Site Association Annual Meeting**

**November 17, 2022**

The annual meeting of the Camp Blount Historic Site Association was held at 5:00 p.m. on November 17, 2022 in the City Municipal Building. Randy Delap opened the meeting by welcoming the twenty-six members in attendance. Minutes of the preceding meeting were reviewed and motion was duly made and approved.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Ben Beddingfield reported a balance of $58,835.79 as of August 11, 2022 with a balance of $54,561.86 as of November 16, 2022. There were no outstanding checks. Earmarked funds included in the balance are: Greer Cabin: $4,176, Volunteer Days 2022: $6,036.15, Tim Morrison Fund: $130, War of 1812 Societies: $10,000 (Greer Cabin), Tree Donations: $4,320, Statue Lighting: $4,000. Motion to accept was duly made and approved.

**Membership Report:** Randy Delap reported 171 charter memberships with a total membership now standing at 213. Motion to accept was duly made and approved.

**Cabin Update:** Colin Wakefield reported Ernie Roles Jr. is hoping to pour the Greer foundation within the next few weeks.

* Bill Wendt met with Rufus Adams Sawmill to discuss cutting sills and timbers so they will be ready and available for the Greer Cabin build. The sawmill currently has Sassafras lumber available at $1.20/brd.ft.. Sassafras is a durable hardwood similar to white oak. Motion was made and approved to spend up to $4,500 for the sassafras cut lumber. This amount will come out of the Greer Cabin account.
* Bill also estimates we will need approximately $3,500 for cedar sleepers which can be purchased later.

**Camp Blount Ambassador:** Colin Wakefield presented a Camp Blount Honorary Ambassador designation to Barbara Faulkner for her many years of hard work and dedication to the organization.

**Volunteer Days:** Colin Wakefield reported the results of the second annual event. Over 1,000 students attended and public attendance number was about the same as last year.

* A follow-up meeting was held to discuss lessons learned and potential improvements for next year’s event.
* Colin talked to members of the Mississinewa 1812 reenactors group from Marion, Indiana. Their annual event draws over 30,000 people each year. Their 2023 event is currently scheduled for October 13 through 15. We have the potential of cross-promoting both events.
* Our 2023 event is tentatively scheduled for October 6 and 7 but School fall break needs to first be confirmed.

**Interpretive Plan/Wars Commission Grant:** Jill Rael reported that the grant application document was submitted to Nina Scall and has already been reviewed. Tentative grant approval timeframe is January or February 2023.

* Jill explained the Foundation document and how it will be the first time for a state site and will be used as an example for future state projects.
* Jill discussed the presentation/handout printing costs with Kevin Owens. Unfortunately, the city won’t be able to help with the costs this year but will try to help with the second printing.

**USDA Grant:** Randy Delap reported that Pat Marsh had contacted USDA and asked if we are interested in working with them on a grant. We sent them a letter of intent listing the project amounts needed. Several of our board members will be meeting with USDA representatives on December 1 to discuss applying for a grant.

* Senator Janice Bowling talked to Dr. Farris Beasley. She will be working on a 2023 grant for us.

**Dry Stone Conservancy:** Bryan Divis reported on the Dry Stone Conservancy. This organization conducts workshops on traditional rock wall construction. Bryan discussed the possibility of them conducting a workshop at Camp Blount next fall 2023. The class is typically a two-day event and there is an enrollment fee. Camp Blount would need to provide volunteers and rock for the project. Bryan will further discuss the potential Camp Blount workshop with the Conservancy. Since this is State owned property, the State will need to be contacted and approve this project.

**Grants Administrative Committee:** The Grants Administrative Committee oversees all grants and requires five members on this committee. Randy Delap, as President, has the authority to assign these committee members. The Grants Administrative Committee member are: Ben Beddingfield, Randy Delay, Eddie Hall, Joel Jacobsen, and Jill Rael.

**Election of Directors:** Randy reported the initial by-laws staggered three groups of five Directors for one, two, and three year terms. Unfortunately, some of these terms had not been updated. In order to get things back on schedule a motion was made and approved to move two sets of five Directors terms out one year. This will allow all Directors terms to be up for nomination November 2023. The Directors affected by this one-year move are: Jill Real, Eddie Hall, Jim Hannah, Mark Mitchell, Clark Waggoner, Randy Delap, Dr. Farris Beasley, Joel Jacobsen, Ben Beddingfield, and Gloria Meadows.

**Amend By-Laws – Article IV Section 7 Officer Terms:** Randy Delap reported that Article IV Section 7 currently states the Officers shall serve a term of two years. In order to match the Director nomination timing, a motion was made and approved to change the Officer terms from two years to three years.

**Other Business:**

* **Statue Lighting:** Proposed lighting for the statue was submitted to the State but was rejected due to the “Dark Sky Initiative”. A conference call was held between Randy Delap, Morgan Reyes, Wayne Hyde, and Nina Scall. We are requesting lighting the statue at night for security and to enhance and promote the site. After further discussion, the State approved four lights on twelve foot smooth poles. Morgan Reyes will resubmit revised drawings for State approval.
* **Storage Container:** A 20 foot storage container was purchased and will be used to CB store chairs, tables, and equipment. The container will be located on the Southeast corner of the property – close to Wal-Mart.
* **Chairs and Tables:** Thanks to Bill Wendt and Mary Ann Tackett for arranging the donation of chairs and tables for Camp Blount.
* **State Senators and Representatives:** Representatives Pat Marsh and Shane Reeves, and Senator Janice Bowling have been working on our behalf in trying to obtain grants and funding for Camp Blount.
* **NAFAA Donation:** The North Alabama RSA Chapter of the United States Field Artillery Association presented Camp Blount with a $500 donation.
* **Camp Blount Student Board:** Denise Nunley and Mark Mitchell were thanked for directing and coordinating the Student Board. The student members did a really impressive job assisting with Volunteer Days and The Host of Christmas Past. The student board will be meeting on the following dates:
  + Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at the Fayetteville Museum
  + Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at the Fayetteville Municipal Building
  + Wednesday, May 10, 2023 (tentative) at Camp Blount

**2023 Meeting Dates: T**he meeting dates have been changed to the second Thursday of the month. 2023 meeting dates are:

* **January 12, 2023**
* **April 13, 2023**
* **August 10, 2023**
* **November 9, 2023**

The 2022 annual meeting was adjourned.