

Pointe Coupee Historical Society meeting notes, 16 June 2020

1. Roll Call- Teresa Houston, Janet Humphreys, Jeanne James, Mindy and Greg LaCour, Bourg Langlois, Aimee Moreau, Carlyn Morales, Rose O'Rear, Blake Scheeler
2. Accept minutes from previous meeting - not yet available
3. Treasurer's report - Rose O'Rear provided the treasurer's report.
 - a. Building Fund - received deposits from Arts Council for the "Treasures of Pointe Coupee" rental in August; received rent from DOTD and David Jarreau; received deposit for one party rental, on 07/20. Large bills paid were the insurance bill to AM Trust, and to B&P Supply for cleaning and pressure washing. Rental income is currently not covering bills. The board approved the treasurer paying for the new fountain, \$3850.05, out of the Building Fund, while awaiting the income from the "Go Fund Me" fundraiser. There was a glitch in processing the funds, which has been resolved. Deposit should be received shortly.
 - b. Society Fund - Certificate of Deposit (CD) matures on Aug 26, 2020. The CD is current earning about \$300/month, and has been an excellent investment. There are several large expenses coming up, replacing or repairing the back doors and removing the water oak on the right front of the property that has become a hazard. The board discussed a reinvestment of \$140,000 when the CD matures, and depositing \$10,000 in the Building Fund to cover upcoming large expenses.
4. Building & Event report
 - a. Birthday party scheduled for July 18th, Mindy needs someone to open on Tue, 14 Jul, and Sat, 18 Jul for the party prep and the day of the party. Janet offered to cover the two events.
 - b. "Treasures of Pointe Coupee" hosted by the Arts Council will be a scaled down event this year, but they are still renting the entire first floor. The Exhibit will be Friday, Aug 14-Sunday, Aug 16, and Friday, August 21-Sunday, August 23. Following state guidance on gatherings, there will be no large reception. Saturday events will include modified art markets, and workshops for children and adults, conducted safely with social distancing. The silent auction will be held on-line. Live entertainment will be provided in the Poydras Auditorium on Sunday, Aug 16, by Taylor Frey and her band Roots Run Deep, and on Sunday Aug 23 by The Krickets. The Arts Council begins accepting applications on July 10.
 - c. Status of Water Fountain - Selected, payment approved.
 - d. Back doors - The hole in the door has been temporarily repaired with a piece of plywood, thank you Bourg. Greg will get bids to find someone to repair or remake the doors. Jeanne James has someone that may be able to do the work, and provided that contact info to Greg. Another option may be Brandon Bergeron, who repaired the window sashes on the second floor.
5. New Business
 - a. Go Fund Me for the water fountain was very successful. We may want to put an article in the Pointe Coupee Banner to thank the large donors, Snap Fitness, and Morrison, Major & David.

- b. Dedication plaques for the benches, Aimee found a nice one for \$750. Jeanne recommended checking with Signs in a Day on Sherwood Forest Blvd, they may have something less expensive.
- c. Following the guidance issued by the state, Mindy is requiring people who meet with her to wear a mask. Bourg has some extra masks that he can donate for Mindy to keep in the office.

6. Old Business

- a. Water oak in the front right corner of the property is continuing to deteriorate and is a hazard to the neighboring property. Bourg will work with the City of New Roads, and St. Mary's Cemetery to see if we can piggy-back on one of their contracts for tree removal, to possibly save on equipment rental for the large tree removal.
- b. Tour of Homes that was suggested as a fall fundraiser will most likely not be possible until there is a COVID-19 vaccine available. This is tabled for future discussion.
- c. Miss Jane Pittman Oak historical plaque- Greg met with Mrs. Diane Gaines to discuss the narrative for the plaque.
- d. Poydras monument - discussion about whether this may be a monument that will draw objections, due to Julien Poydras' history as one of the largest slave owners in the entire US in the mid-1800s. The monument marks a gravesite that is registered with the state of Louisiana as a single person cemetery. As a cemetery, it cannot be removed. The board may want to consider a display to place Julien Poydras' history in perspective, as both the founder of Louisiana as a state, and his philanthropic works, balanced with accurate information about his slave ownership and role in putting down a large slave revolt.