

Historic Carter House Society Inc.
Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 14, 2012

Vickie Robinson, Interim President, called the Annual Meeting of the Historic Carter House Society Inc. (HCHS) to order. The meeting was held in the Carter Plantation Atrium Room, 23475 Carter Trace, Springfield, Louisiana 70462. The meeting was attended by the following Board of Directors/Officers: Vickie Robinson, Interim Chairman; Wanda Loupe, Vice Chairman; Carolyn Trevathan, Treasurer; Sharon Lietzke, Secretary, and Beverly Burgess, Director. The meeting was open to members who were paid up-to-date with their dues and a quorum was met since the HCHS By-laws state that "members present at any properly announced meeting shall constitute a quorum".

After the meeting was called to order Ms. Robinson welcomed everyone to the first annual meeting of the society and introduced the current Board of Directors/Officers.

Mr. Danny Gendusa asked the question of whether or not the memberships of those attending were still valid. The question was answered by Ms. Robinson by stating that the annual membership kickoff was not held until November 18, 2011 so everyone was still a valid member. She advised that forms were on the table for those who wanted to renew their memberships tonight for the upcoming year or take a form home and mail it back.

The status of Finances was covered by Ms. Loupe. She gave the update on Income and Expenses for the years 2011 and 2012 by saying the revenue had been raised by the various fundraisers, donations, and grants and that sufficient funds had been raised to start the first phase of renovation work on the house. The first phase of renovation was the front portions of the house facing the street and it was pressure washed, painted, columns/shutters repaired, and the front/side entrance doors were refinished. The Operating Expenses for the two year period included a new hot water heater for the kitchen, miscellaneous repairs, office expenses, event expenses, and outside services. She advised another grant has been approved by Entergy for \$500.00 for additional lighting that would be put by the columns near the street which would help especially with safety. The revenue for the two year period was just over \$37,000.00 and Operating Expenses was almost \$26,000.00 leaving a bank balance of just over \$11,000.00.

A Re-cap for 2012 fundraisers was briefly covered by Ms. Robinson along with requesting that members make suggestions of what they would like to see the Board do to raise money. She asked everyone to write their suggestions on the slips of paper and drop them in the basket on the table. She read off a list of suggestions for upcoming fundraisers but the members had no questions or suggestions. Everyone was reminded that tickets were on sale for the Elvis Experience being held on Friday, November 30 and the Play Pass Raffle tickets with the drawing being held on December 15.

Members were updated on the status/review of grants pursued by the HCHS. Livingston Parish Convention & Visitors Bureau has given a total of \$6,000.00 in grants. The Livingston Parish Grants Coordinator, Ms. Heather Crain, is working with the HCHS to obtain a grant for \$7,000.00 so the HCHS can have the Carter House and Pool House tied into the Mo Dad Water

System. The request went to the Livingston Parish Council and they have approved the request so it has now been sent to the State. Ms. Loupe advised that the pump had gone out for the well and the cost of a new pump was covered by the CDD. She reiterated the grant from Entergy for \$500.00 has been approved and the check is forthcoming for additional lighting to be placed by the columns near the street. Information was given about the HCHS applying for a matching grant for \$10,000.00 with the State of Louisiana Department of Preservations in March of 2012 but the grant was denied with no reason given for the rejection. HCHS hopes to apply for one next year. Additional grants are being researched and the Board is hopeful to find others. The Livingston Grants Coordinator has sent information about a grant that we will research but it was pointed out that it is not easy to find grants, qualify, and be awarded the grant. A question / suggestion was made by Ms. Melanie Irwin for the Board to set up committees to help with some of the various projects since the Board really has more than they can do. The Board asked her if she would like to take on the job of researching grants and chair a committee and she replied that she would think about it.

The list of restoration items budgeted for 2013 were briefly described and the estimate of \$25,150.00 has been obtained from the contractor who has done the Phase I work. The work for 2013 will basically continue around the other parts of the outside of the house to clean, make necessary repairs, and paint but the work toward the back area by the sunroom will be quite different because there is a lot of rotten wood that will have to be replaced. It is not known what conditions will be found once it is opened to replace the rotten wood. This work will begin as soon as the HCHS has sufficient funds.

The Election of Officers was introduced and discussed by Ms. Loupe. Ms. Loupe announced that there were two positions open for election and the first was Chairman. Ms. Robinson has been serving as Interim Chairman and the position needs to be filled with a permanent Chairman. Ms. Robinson was nominated for the position, it was seconded, the nominations were closed and the vote results were that Ms. Robinson was elected Chairman of the Board. The second position that Ms. Loupe announced was Treasurer. Ms. Loupe nominated Ms. Linda Simoneaux and it was seconded, the nominations were closed and the vote result was that Ms. Simoneaux was elected Treasurer. This position was being filled since Ms. Carolyn Trevathan had earlier in the year submitted her resignation but agreed to continue serving until this election of officers. All other positions were retained by those holding them at this time.

Ms. Beverly Burgess acknowledged all the help we had from the members and especially those that had volunteered at various events. She thanked everyone for their support and help so the HCHS could be so successful in their first year of operation. She thanked the ladies that had started the HCHS and acknowledged how much they accomplished in such a short time. In addition Ms. Robinson thanked the CPCA for their generous contributions from the 2011 and 2012 golf tournaments and the CDD for their faith and support in our organization by awarding us the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement for a 7 year term.

The floor was opened for questions but no one had questions so the Board thanked everyone for attending the meeting and then it was adjourned.