

☆ FOR THE RECORD

Minutes of the OHS Quarterly Board Meeting

October 23, 1985

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order by President Denzil D. Garrison at 1:30 p.m. Executive Director C. E. Metcalf called the roll and those answering were Dr. Brad Agnew, Dr. W. David Baird, Ben Blackstock, Edna H. Bowman, Donald L. Coffin, Dr. Odie B. Faulk, W. D. Finney, Dr. LeRoy H. Fischer, President Garrison, Dr. Donald E. Green, Brunetta B. Griffith, Colonel Martin A. Hagerstrand, Jack D. Haley, Berenice Jackson, James O. Kemm, Ralph McCalmont, Ruth Eager Moran, Zella J. Patterson, Jordan B. Reaves, and Lewis Stiles, D.V.M. Those excused were Q. B. Boydston, Jack T. Conn, Ellen K. Walcher and Lu Celia Wise. Dr. Fischer moved, Mrs. Moran seconded, to excuse those who had advised they would not be present. The motion passed unanimously. John Massey was absent.

President Garrison asked for the unanimous consent of the members to consider first Agenda Item No. 5, Bylaws Amendment. He read the proposed new language for Article II, Section 5, regarding Society annual meetings. In response to a question from Mrs. Jackson, President Garrison explained that the Executive Committee and Mr. Metcalf believed that there were locations throughout the state where annual meetings could be held. Upon a motion by Colonel Hagerstrand, seconded by Dr. Fischer, the amendment was approved unanimously by voice vote of the directors present. The amendment reads:

Annual Meetings. The annual meetings of the membership shall convene at 1:00 p.m. on the Friday following the fourth Tuesday of the month of April, in the meeting room of the Oklahoma Historical Society or at such other location within the State of Oklahoma as shall be designated by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Notice of the designation of a site other than the meeting room of the Oklahoma Historical Society will be disseminated to the membership through the United States Postal Service at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of the meeting.

Returning to Item No. 2 of the agenda, Dr. Green moved that the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of July 17, August 21 and September 18, 1985, be approved as mailed. Dr. Faulk seconded and approval was unanimous. Dr. Faulk moved that the minutes of the quarterly Board meeting of July 24, 1985, be approved as mailed. Dr. Green seconded and approval was unanimous. Mr. McCalmont moved, seconded by Dr. Stiles, that the minutes of the meetings of the Burkhart Trustees held July 17, August 21 and September 18, 1985, be approved as mailed. All approved that the minutes be adopted.

Mrs. Moran moved, seconded by Mrs. Patterson, that the lists of gifts received during the quarter in the Research Library, the Archives and Manuscripts, and Museums and Historic Sites divisions be accepted. Acceptance was unanimous.

Mrs. Patterson moved, Mrs. Moran seconded, that the list presented by Mr. Metcalf of those applying for membership in the Society be approved. Mr. Metcalf announced that 126 persons had applied, including Ben Blackstock and John M. Nelson for life

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membership. The applications were unanimously approved and President Garrison declared the approval to be the order.

The Executive Director presented old business items, answering questions regarding disposition of unstaffed sites and the surplus land exchange project at Honey Springs. Mr. Metcalf also noted that the purchase agreement for the Adjutant's Office at Fort Gibson was being carried to the Office of Public Affairs this date.

Dr. Fischer presented the Treasurer's Report, calling attention to various fund balances. Dr. Fischer moved that the report be approved; Mrs. Bowman seconded and approval was unanimous.

Prior to the Board's ratification of the agency's budget request, Mr. Metcalf was asked to compare the fiscal year 1987 request with that submitted for 1986. He outlined the procedures which were followed, noting that the agency had had its first budget hearing and that further hearings would resume in January, 1986. He stated that agencies were required to have budget requests to the Budget Office by September 1, 1985, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1986, making the board's ratification a formality, or action after the fact. Dr. Faulk moved, Dr. Fischer seconded, that ratification of the fiscal year 1987 budget request be approved as submitted. Ratification was unanimous.

Dr. Fischer read from the quarterly report of the Publications and Education Division. He displayed a copy of the newly-released *County Courthouses of Oklahoma*, suggested the *1986 OHS Calendar* as Christmas gifts, and noted that State Museum Store sales for the quarter totalled \$21,965.00. He also announced future publications to be released by the division: *Oklahoma's Governors, 1955-1979*, *Historic Cemeteries of Oklahoma* and *Twentieth Century Indian Policy in Oklahoma*. Dr. Fischer moved that the report be adopted; Dr. Stiles seconded, and adoption was unanimous.

Mr. Reaves presented the annual requests for loan renewals. These included portraits to the Oklahoma Heritage Association and the City of Nichols Hills; artifacts to the United States Postal Services, Eastern Trails Museum, 45th Infantry Division Museum, and to the 1889ers Society's Harn House Museum (contingent upon the resumption of staffing by the City of Oklahoma City within three months). After discussion, the committee suggested that recommendation be given to the Governor's office to transfer Governor E. W. Marland's oak desk to the Marland Mansion Historic Home, thus relieving the Society of maintaining records of the desk. The committee expressed its desire to transfer all responsibility of the USS Oklahoma Punch Bowl from the Society to the Governor's Mansion. Other loan renewal requests were for the Sydney Suggs plaque to the Department of Transportation; the Chapman Medal of Honor to the Pioneer Museum; an early-day Oklahoma City diorama to the Oklahoma County Historical Society; peace medals to the Smithsonian Institution; and artifacts to the Kirkpatrick Center including a request for Mrs. Frances Haskell's inaugural gown. The committee agreed to renew the Center's requests with the exception of the Haskell gown, which was judged to be too fragile to exhibit. Approval was given to renew the loan of a piano to the Bartlesville Wesleyan College. The committee recommended redesignating certain books in the Museums division from Primary Accessions status to Resource Materials.

Mr. Reaves advised that oil portraits of governors J. Howard Edmondson, David Hall and David Boren had been offered to the State Museum. The committee had voted to accept them, but suggested that President Garrison or Mr. Metcalf invite Mrs. Edmondson and Senator Boren to donate better portraits if possible.

The committee's tour of northwest Oklahoma museums was described by Mr.

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Reaves, who said the committee was impressed by the museums visited, although areas for improvement were noted. Dr. Baird moved, seconded by Dr. Green, to adopt the report, including the requests for loans. Adoption was unanimous.

Mr. McCalmont moved, Dr. Green and Mr. Coffin seconded, to bring the national "Main Street" program to Oklahoma. They agreed that at least five Oklahoma towns should adopt the program. Mr. McCalmont asked to be excused from the meeting.

Dr. Baird presented the report of the Archives and Manuscripts Committee, noting that the committee had recommended that an evaluation procedure should be implemented to determine whether or not materials to be microfilmed were already available on microfilm from other sources. In answer to a question, Mr. Metcalf advised that the Archives and Manuscripts Division was awaiting recommendations from the Executive Committee relating to action to be taken as a result of the oral history program evaluation. The committee also approved the division's request for funds for access to a computer to enhance cataloging and other archival procedures. Dr. Baird moved that the report be adopted. Dr. Faulk seconded and the motion passed. Dr. Baird asked to be excused.

Colonel Hagerstrand discussed the matter of goals for the Historic Sites Committee, saying that the staff had requested that the committee work with them to identify itself as to purpose and direction. The staff was asked to present a draft statement of goals. Colonel Hagerstrand told of the committee's discussion of the desirability of closing sites with extremely low visitation. The Historic Sites staff was asked to prepare a report of the feasibility of maintaining certain sites with low visitation and those with projected expensive restoration requirements. Mrs. Moran moved, Dr. Fischer seconded, to adopt the report and adoption was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Patterson told of plans formulated by the Black Heritage Committee for the observance of Black Heritage Month in 1986. The theme chosen was "Black Oklahomans as Frontiersmen." Mrs. Patterson distributed an agenda for the programs scheduled throughout the month of February. Mrs. Patterson moved, Dr. Fischer seconded, that the report be adopted. Consent was unanimous.

Mr. Finney explained the Certified Local Governments (CLG) program, announcing that Anadarko had made application. He said that the program was designed to increase the participation of local governments in the federal and state preservation programs. Mr. Finney reminded the Board members of the need to select a recipient for the George H. Shirk Memorial Award for outstanding effort in historic preservation. The award, funded by the Sooner Federal Savings and Loan "Belt Buckle" fund, may be presented to a state employee, but not to members of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors nor to staff members, according to Mr. Metcalf. Mr. Finney read from the recipient criteria and said past award winners had been the Logan County Historical Society and the Department of History and Geography, Oklahoma State University. Mr. Finney moved that the report of the Historic Preservation Committee be approved; Dr. Fischer seconded, and all concurred.

The Membership Committee report was presented by Dr. Fischer, who stated that efforts during the past year had resulted in 611 new Society members, the goal being 1,500 persons by 1989. He urged each of the directors to contact history groups in their own communities to encourage membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society. A brief discussion followed regarding membership fees and publication costs. Mr. Blackstock suggested that the membership fee be raised to \$18, senior citizens and students \$9, and he requested that the matter be placed on the agenda for the January meeting. Dr. Fischer moved that the report be adopted; Mrs. Moran seconded and all agreed to the adoption of the report.

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Mr. Haley said that the Library Resources Committee had asked for the Board's authorization on two matters. The first was the authority to deaccession 75 titles and items previously catalogued that probably should not have been accessioned in the Society's collections. Mr. Blackstock moved, Mrs. Moran seconded, that authority be granted and approval was unanimous.

A second request from the Library committee was the need to authorize J. L. Armstrong, Jr., Finance Officer, to allocate Diamond Jubilee "book" funds in the amount of \$6,617 to a thirty-day certificate of deposit. Mr. Haley moved to authorize this request; Mrs. Bowman seconded and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Haley reported that three new microfilm readers had been ordered. He yielded to Mr. Blackstock who reviewed the Society's newspaper microfilming program. Mr. Blackstock expressed his appreciation of the financial support to the program from the Noble Foundation and to the efforts of Representative Lewis M. Kamas and Representative Enoch Kelly Haney to place \$20,000 additional funds for the program into the Society's appropriations bill. Mr. Haley moved that the report of the Library Resources Committee be approved; Mr. Blackstock seconded and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Haley presented the report of the ad hoc Deputy Director Search Committee. He said that the committee had met just prior to the Board meeting and, having failed to reach a decision regarding the three candidates interviewed, voted to extend the search through January 31, 1986. President Garrison asked the committee to prepare a report for the January meeting of the Board.

Mr. Metcalf report that former Executive Secretary Elmer L. Fraker had passed away September 16, 1985, in Florida with burial in Edmond, Oklahoma. Flowers from the Board of Directors had been sent to Mrs. Carolyn Fraker Atkinson and Mr. Robert Fraker, children of Mr. Fraker.

Mr. Metcalf referred to the Governor's Travel mandate regarding travel to foreign countries by state employees. All such travel was to be approved by the Governor's office.

President Garrison announced that the newly designed Plains Indians Gallery dedication was to follow adjournment and invited the Board members to attend the gallery opening.

Mrs. Moran moved that the meeting be adjourned; Mr. Blackstock seconded and the motion became the order at 3:10 p.m.

DENZIL D. GARRISON,
PRESIDENT

C. E. METCALF,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR