

☆ FOR THE RECORD

Minutes of the OHS Quarterly Board Meeting

October 29, 1986

The quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Historical Society was called to order by President Denzil D. Garrison at 1:30 p.m. at the Frank Phillips Historic Site, Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

Executive Director C. E. Metcalf called the roll and those responding were Brad Agnew, W. David Baird, Ben Blackstock, Edna H. Bowman, Donald L. Coffin, Louis Coleman, Jack T. Conn, Odie B. Faulk, LeRoy H. Fischer, President Garrison, Donald E. Green, Brunetta B. Griffith, Jack D. Haley, James O. Kemm, Ralph McCalmont, Ruth Eager Moran, Alma A. Pringle, Jordan B. Reaves, Lewis Stiles, Ellen K. Walcher, and Lu Celia Wise. Members who had asked to be excused were W. D. Finney, Martin A. Hagerstrand, Berenice Jackson, and Jim Mayo.

President Garrison introduced the Mayor of the City of Bartlesville, The Honorable Arch Robbins, who welcomed the members to the City. Mr. Reaves responded to the welcome of the Mayor by saying the City of Bartlesville was an outstanding city and congratulated the residents for their spirit and recovery from a recent flood disaster.

President Garrison called upon the President of the Washington County Historical Society, Mr. Edgar Weston, who gave a brief history of the Washington County Historical Society and told of some of their accomplishments. He also thanked President Garrison, Executive Director Metcalf, and the Oklahoma Historical Society for their help to the Washington Society and welcomed the members to the city. Tom Sears, past president and past vice president of the Washington County Historical Society also was introduced by President Garrison.

At this time, President Garrison asked that Item "B" under "Other Business" be moved up on the agenda. There were no objections and Mr. Metcalf was recognized. Mr. Metcalf advised that the Executive Committee of the Oklahoma Historical Society recommended that Mrs. Betty Girouard, former executive secretary of the Society, be given a life membership to the Society for her many years of faithful service. It was moved by Mr. Haley and seconded by Dr. Green that this honorary membership be awarded. Assent was unanimous. Mrs. Girouard graciously thanked the members for this honor.

Certificates of Election were presented to Mr. Ralph McCalmont, Mr. Jack Haley, Dr. Odie Faulk, and Mrs. Lu Celia Wise by President Garrison. Presentation of Benefactor Memberships were presented by President Garrison to Mr. Carl Sadler and Mr. Jordan Reaves for their exemplary contributions to the Society; Mr. Reaves for his contribution of time and materials to the OHS collections and Mr. Sadler for his rare photograph collection.

President Garrison presented for approval the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of July 16, August 20 and September 17, the meetings of the Burkhardt Trustees those same dates; and the meeting of the Board of Directors, July 22, 1986, as mailed. Dr. Baird called attention to Page 4, Paragraph 2, and noted it should read "... the Oklahoma Foundation for the Humanities", rather than the "National Endowment for the Humanities." He also noted that Page 10, Paragraph 2, should read

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"... Dr. Tim Zwink" rather than "Dr. Tim Swink." Mr. Coleman noted that on Page 2, Paragraph 2, approval to correct an omission to the April 25, 1986, minutes was made but approval was not voted for the minutes themselves. He stated it should read, "... Mr. Coleman so moved, Mrs. Bowman seconded and approval to correct the omission and approve the minutes was unanimous." Mr. Coleman called attention to Page 6, Paragraph 2, and said Line 10 should read, "... Mr. Coleman moved, Mr. Reaves seconded that because the Oklahoma Historical Society would have to declare the parade grounds surplus the Society would deny the lease and continue to develop the park." Mr. McCalmont so moved that the Executive Committee minutes, the Burkhart Trustees minutes and the Board minutes, amended as submitted, be approved. Dr. Faulk seconded the motion and vote was for unanimous approval.

Mrs. Pringle asked how the board members could approve the Executive Committee minutes when they were not all members of the committee. President Garrison said these minutes had been approved by the Executive Committee and approval was asked by the full Board for the records. Mr. Conn stated it was his opinion that it was not the approval of the wording of the minutes but the approval of the Committee's actions that was requested.

The gift lists were presented by Mr. Metcalf, who said nine donors had given items to the Archives and Manuscripts Division, twenty-seven to the Research Library, and forty donors had given materials to the Museums Division. Mrs. Wise moved, Mrs. Moran seconded to accept the gift lists and acceptance was unanimous.

The list of applicants for membership in the Society was presented by Mr. Metcalf, who said that there was a total of 167 new members, including six new life members. Those were Don Jeffrey Craighead, Donald C. Keaton, Perry B. Lewis, Mrs. William E. Statham, and Linda Anne Zablatnik. One new supporting member, Carol Daube Sutton, had also applied. Mrs. Bowman moved to accept the applications; Dr. Baird seconded and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Metcalf gave the old-business report, noting that due to budgetary restraints one historic site, the Murray-Lindsay Mansion, had to be closed. He said the City of Lindsay, Oklahoma, had agreed to accept the ownership of that property and maintain it. Mr. Metcalf reported that Mr. Charles Bush, who leases a portion of the Burkhart property, had brought his account up-to-date through the lease period and had asked for a new lease that would be considered by the Burkhart Trustees.

The treasurer's report was given by Dr. Fischer. He called attention to the Board of Directors' Courtesy Fund and asked for donations. Dr. Fischer moved the treasurer's report be approved as rendered, Mrs. Wise seconded and acceptance was unanimous. Dr. Baird referred to a report of the Archives and Manuscripts Committee relative to recommendations of Consultant Ronald E. Marcello, who was hired to review the oral history program. Dr. Baird asked that Item 3 of the Committee's recommendations be altered to read "... of target projects and evaluate annually the quality of the interviews"; and that in Item 4 the word "instituted" be changed to "implemented." Dr. Baird moved that the report as altered be made a part of the record. It was seconded by Mr. Coleman and approval was unanimous. The Archives Division was praised by Dr. Baird for their good work. Dr. Baird emphasized the importance of the Archives Division to the Agency and moved that their quarterly report be accepted. Dr. Fischer seconded and the vote was unanimous for acceptance.

The need for a computer and computer technology for the Archives Division was again brought to the attention of the members by Dr. Baird. Dr. Baird moved that computer technology be purchased to enable the Archives and Manuscripts Division to

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prepare and publish indices and catalogs describing their collections. These would then be appropriately distributed with annual updates. The motion was seconded by Mr. Coleman and approval was unanimous.

Mrs. Pringle, reporting for the Black Heritage Committee, said that Ms. Kathy Dickson had effectively and efficiently replaced Mr. Jack Wettengel as staff liaison to the committee. Mrs. Pringle said that plans were underway, with the committee meeting once a month to plan Black Heritage Month for February. She said handbooks are being updated to be distributed to the schools throughout the state to help provide suggestions and basic information for them in the planning of their celebrations for Black Heritage Month. She told of numerous other activities and events being planned. Mrs. Pringle moved that the report of the committee be approved. Dr. Green seconded and there was unanimous assent.

Mr. McCalmont reported that the Historic Preservation Division was doing a commendable job. He said the Division had certified almost \$200,000,000 worth of tax projects, and pointed out that this division has been a moving economic force in the state. He praised Melvena Heisch, Division Head, for her work and in particular in the Main Street Program. He pointed out that this program has created numerous jobs and it is anticipated that it will provide many more. Mr. McCalmont moved that the report of the Historic Preservation Division be approved. It was seconded by Mr. Reaves and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Metcalf, reporting for the Historic Sites Division, requested that the Division's quarterly report be accepted as mailed. It was so moved by Mr. McCalmont, seconded by Dr. Faulk, and acceptance was unanimous.

Mrs. Wise advised there would not be a detailed report from the Indian Heritage Committee but a project would be submitted in January. The Library Resources Committee did not meet prior to the Board Meeting, said Mr. Haley. He referred to the quarterly report submitted by the division. He advised that through volunteer help it would be possible to open the library one evening a week, beginning in January 1987. Mr. Haley moved, seconded by Mr. Blackstock, that the report be accepted. Acceptance was unanimous. Mrs. Moran moved that the volunteer program be implemented to keep the library open one evening a week beginning in January 1987. It was seconded by Mr. Blackstock and approval was unanimous.

Dr. Fischer reported on the Membership Committee's efforts to increase and retain membership in the Oklahoma Historical Society. He stated that the goal was 4,300 members and that goal had been reached in the month of October. Dr. Fischer advised that the committee would like to extend the membership drive, and he moved that the membership report be approved. Mr. McCalmont seconded and approval was unanimous.

Mr. Reaves referred the board members to the quarterly report mailed to them from the Museums Division. He said the division had submitted and received numerous grants. Mr. Reaves told of a recent visit to the State Museum's storage area with the American Museums Association's accreditation team and stated that he was very pleased with the organization of the area.

Mr. Reaves reported that a number of items had been considered for deaccessioning by the committee. Items included one piece of butterscotch candy, two dressers in extremely bad condition, a bedstead, a tin box, a cardboard box, and fragments of a spinning wheel. Mr. Reaves moved, Mr. Conn seconded, that the items be deaccessioned and approval was unanimous. Mr. Reaves moved that the Museums Division's report be adopted, seconded by Mr. Conn and adoption was unanimous.

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A request from the Philbrook Art Center to extend the loan of several Native American artifacts, throughout the period of 1988, was presented by Mr. Reaves, who moved that this request be granted. It was seconded by Mrs. Wise and approval was unanimous. Mr. Reaves asked that several other loan requests as approved by the Museums Committee be extended. There was unanimous consent.

Dr. Fischer, reporting for the Publications and Education Division, called attention to that division's quarterly report. He distributed a brochure designed, prepared, and printed for the library as well as a brochure advertising the newest publications. He noted the newest book was Arrell Gibson's *Between Two Worlds: The Survival of American Indians in the Twentieth Century*. Dr. Fischer moved the report be accepted, Dr. Green seconded, and acceptance was unanimous.

Mr. Coleman asked the members to recall that when the by-laws were adopted in 1981 they were quite inflexible as to when and where the annual meeting of the membership would occur. He stated that this section of the by-laws had been amended to allow more flexibility but he proposed to make it even more flexible by amending Section 5, Article II, to read; "Section 5: Annual Meetings. The annual meetings of the membership shall convene each April at the time and place designated by the Board of Directors provided only that such time and place be designated no later than the end of January each year. Notice of the designation. . ." Mr. Coleman moved that this proposed change be adopted and it was seconded by Mr. Haley. The vote was unanimous to adopt the change.

President Garrison distributed a copy of Dr. Odie Faulk's new book, *Land of the Fair God*, to each member of the board. It was noted for the record by President Garrison that Colonel Hagerstrand had arrived for the meeting. Mrs. Wise told the members that she was donating to the Oklahoma Historical Society the rights, all color separations, and negatives to eleven of her books in an effort that they may be preserved and that their sales may perpetuate their printing. She explained that the only way the Historical Society can accept the work is if it has the rights and the funds to reprint them.

Mrs. Wise introduced her guests, Ellen Sue Blakey and Missy Cruise. Ms. Blakey referred to her letter of November 1 and this letter relating to a fund raising effort on her part was read to the Board members by Mr. McCalmont. Mrs. Wise asked that the Board commend Ms. Blakey for accepting this funding project. It was so moved by Mrs. Wise and seconded by Mr. McCalmont.

It was moved by Mrs. Wise and seconded by Dr. Stiles that the time to complete the privately sponsored raising of funds for the project be extended to April 1, 1987. The extension was unanimously approved.

An invitation to attend the Veterans' Memorial Dedication ceremonies on the grounds of the Oklahoma Historical Society at 11:00 a.m., November 11, 1986, was extended by Mr. Metcalf.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 3:45 p.m.
Denzil D. Garrison, President

C. E. Metcalf, Executive Director