

Farragut Museum Committee Minutes
April 25, 2023, 1pm
Farragut Town Hall Community Room

Members Present:

Dot LaMarche, Chairperson
Annie Dittmann, Vice Chairperson
Sue-Ann Hansler, Gift Shop Manager
Joyce Moran, Scheduler
Bill Rhodes, Secretary
Bill Battle
Beverley Hammond
Henry Bird
Paul Bergen

Members Absent:

David White, Alderman

Town Staff Present:

Jesse Williams, HRC
Trevor Hobbs
David Smoak, Administrator
Ron Williams, Mayor

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by the Chairperson. Attendees were introduced.

2. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with minor corrections. Motion to approve was made by Henry Bird and seconded by Beverley Hammond. The motion carried with no dissenting votes.

3. Historic Resources Coordinator's Report: The HRC report consisted of a long discussion that revealed a high degree of committee member dissatisfaction with the appearance of the museum, the seemingly premature removal of critical displays to storage, the presence of a display with little or no connection to the town or its history, and poor communication both among the town staff and with the committee. The result of the discussion was that avenues of communication were established for the future; the unrelated display was scheduled for removal and was to be replaced with a display of Admiral Farragut's books; and explanation of the status of displays. Trevor Hobbs offered an apology for communication shortcomings. It is believed that all issues were addressed and resolved satisfactorily.

The upcoming presentation in May on the Battle of Mobile Bay was canceled at the request of presenter Bill Rhodes and is to be rescheduled for a later date.

The July 4th parade was discussed and the HRC reported that it had been handled. No further information was forthcoming other than the fact that the Museum float was not going to be modified as previously discussed.

A memorial service for the fallen at the Battle of Campbell's Station on November 17 was also discussed but no plans were put forward for discussion.

4. Gift Shop Report: Sue-Ann Hansler reported that gift shop sales in March totaled \$162.50 plus taxes.

5. Volunteer Scheduling: The volunteer schedule for May has been completed by Joyce Moran and disseminated to all volunteers.

6. New/Old Business:

A motion was made to expel Alderman David White from the committee by Bill Rhodes. The Town Administrator countered that this removal was in the purview of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Action on this matter was promised.

A motion was made by Joyce Moran and seconded by Bill Rhodes to close the museum for the Town Hall's renovation on June 30 to coincide with the end of the 2023 fiscal year. The motion carried with one dissenting vote.

7. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Museum Volunteer Committee will be held on May 23, 2023, at the Town Hall Community Room at 1:00 PM. This time has recently been changed to 2:00 PM,

8. Adjournment: The April Committee Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM.

THANK YOU TO ALL COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS, SEE YOU NEXT MONTH