

CHESTER TOURISM COMMISSION MINUTES August 19, 2015,

Present: Brenda Owen, Betty Wagner, Linda Rader, Pam Fraley, Sandra Starr, Norma Baughman, Carol Harrison, Cynthia Lawder, Toni Hosick, Pete Spittler

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	OUTCOME
Minutes	July minutes were reviewed. Norma made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Betty seconded and the minutes were approved.	Minutes filed.
Financial report	Linda R. gave the financial report. The Commission has a balance of \$6,880.40 and petty cash of \$128.88.	The report was filed for audit.
Evergreen Cemetery Comes Alive Sun, Oct 18, 2-6 PM	Subcommittee has been planning. The group needs a few more actors for additional characters added this year. We also need a few more lanterns for the dusk tour. The DAR will participate in the event, providing volunteers. May consider “advertising” event in the Popeye Parade. Lauren had a suggestion for using the funds from this year for help with the Pierre Menard home. Currently, plans have not included participation of Benson’s.	Next subcommittee meeting: September 14 @ 5:30 @ Flexline.
Christmas Walk	No report.	
Historic preservation fund	Brenda made a motion to donate an amount not to exceed \$200 from the general fund for termite extermination at Pierre Menard home. Cynthia seconded the motion. The motion passed.	\$200 will be donated toward extermination of termites at the Pierre Menard home.
River Boats	All river boats were cancelled with the exception of the American Eagle which docked this morning. Tourism members participated in providing tours and manning locations. All went well with the event. No utility person was arranged, but it may be a good idea to have this service available anyway. Linda did have someone who needed a pharmacy and Toni indicated she had several folks who wanted “candy.” The travelers from the boat stated they enjoyed their time in Chester.	Sandra will follow up with Patti regarding payment for services.
Stone Cottage	The hardwood floors at the cottage have been given a second treatment and look good. Bob Decker did yard work to remove vines from the cottage and trimmed a branch from the cedar tree. Bob also talked with the mayor, and the city will install a sidewalk in front of the cottage. The committee will take care of the walkway to the cottage. Harry is soliciting bids for exterior back doors and for a simple two story porch. Larry Smith created a matching transom for the east room and glass has been replaced in the front door.	
New project ideas	Brenda suggested we work on our historic properties to prepare for the eventuality of Ste. Genevieve becoming a National Park. Previously discussed ideas include celebrating the total eclipse in 2017, the Illinois Bicentennial in 2018, and Menard Home repairs.	
Welcome Center	No report.	
Randolph Co. Tourism	Norma reported that Fort du Chartres is celebrating the 250 th anniversary of the fort on October 9, 10, and 11 with some special events.	
City Council Update	No report.	
Other	Pete reported that on Sept. 8 at 6 PM, the city will have a public meeting regarding the new hotel, which is now to be a Holiday Inn Express, not a Micro Hotel. The Shooting Complex is scheduled to close Aug. 30 if there is still no state budget in place. The state has reportedly notified representatives that the complex will not close permanently. Wally is considering changing the restaurant to a steak and chop house.	
Adjournment	Cynthia moved to adjourn. Pam seconded. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.	Next meeting: September 16, 2015 @ 10:30 AM at City Hall.