**EDDIE G. ROBINSON MUSEUM COMMISSION &**

**FRIENDS OF EDDIE G. ROBINSON MUSEUM BOARD MEETING**

**February 13, 2014**

Member in Attendance:

Board Members\* John Belton, \*Wilbert Ellis, \*Sailor Jackson, \*Barbara McIntyre, \*Travis Napper, \*James Bradford, \*Robert Clark, Mary Durusau, Emma Hallums, Terry Bradford, Ewing Collier

Call to order and welcome by President John Belton.

Prayer by Coach Ellis

**Financial Report: Treasurer Robert Clark**

**FERM Account 2014:**

As of December 15,2013 the account balance is $145,596.51.

Gaming bank balance $18,209.25. Noted it should be current as there were no

expenditures.

Gaming account balance for December is $5,608. $2,500 deposited.

Profit & Loss Statement September through December 2013 Net Income $1,841.70

$10,000 transferred from gaming account to general fund October/September. Motion to

Approve Robert Clark, seconded James Bradford.

**Donations:**

December 19, 2013 from Legends $5,000

Doris Robinson Hall $450.00

Museum Donations from September-December $210.00

Coach Ellis announced that while he was in Baton Rouge at Bayou Classic Smoke Free would present a check for $7,500 next week. John Belton stated there would be a Press Conference for both the Legends and Smoke Free donations.

**Doris Robinson Hall and Museum Store**

Brief discussion on Hall rental fees in relationship to other venues. Charge $100 during the day, non-profits no charge fee after hours. $300 after and extended hour. No report for revenue from Museum Store. Usually take in between $1,00-1,200 per month.

Clarity concerning issue between Robinson Family and Barnes and Nobles as to royalties and contracts with Eddie III after passing of Eddie Robins Jr. All contracts still valid. Percentage we receive from sales and lease remain unchanged.

**Staff-Museum & FERM:**

Mary Darusau stated that finally have appointment for Jon Moss. Allocation of 32 hours to be filled at her discretion. New agreement with the Friends to cover January-June. Discussion concerning need for back- up/ relief person to cover when Ms. Moss is not available. Pay as hourly person. Suggestions requested. John Belton shared how aggressively Mary Darusau, James Bradford, and University fought to keep Ms. Moss funded in current position with the museum. Agreement to contribute financially if necessary. This is a three year appointment with same hours.

Mary Darusau also stated that after 2/12 years of traveling up to North Louisiana from Baton Rouge that Wayne Wadell from Shreveport will represent some of the museums in the area. Widely agreed that Ms. Darusau has represented us well and will be sorely missed. Motion to approve report by Sailor Jackson, seconded by James Bradford.

**Election of Commission and Friends Officers 2014-2015:**

All officers to retain positions.

Ewing Collier shared that the City of Grambling had levied a 5% tax on sales. This has been recently appealed to provide relief for one year. This amounted to approximately $400 per quarter.

**New Business:**

**Museum Activities, Needs- Jon Moss:** None noted at present. Motion to have her use

her discretion approved by James Bradford and seconded by Sailor Jackson.

**Fundraiser Events:** John Belton stated that he has spoken with the university

concerning joint fundraising ventures. Benefits of using their staff, resources to promote

events. Discussion as to percentage to university.

John Belton’s suggestion was that when the National Coaches Association presents the award named after Coach Robinson, that it be presented here at a banquet as our fundraiser. James Bradford stated that we should be able to hold event with involving university. That we internally should have the manpower to develop alone. Agreed to look at both sides of the issue as it was just in preliminary stages. Suggestion that we look into hiring a professional fundraiser. All open to discussion.

John Belton asked Travis Napper if the CVB would assist with bill boards. Lamar willing to donate use of board and fundraiser. Travis Napper stated there are monies set aside and he would check to determine what assistance is available.

**Landscaping:**

Coach Ellis stated that the cold weather has shut down landscaping efforts and have been hard on existing. Commented that the landscaping around the museum has spurred the university to step up as well.

Ms. Durusau stated that we might want to slow down efforts as there is still a major drainage problem in the front and side of the building. French drain was not installed correctly. The state is going back on the surety bond from the contractor to have him re-do. Have to pull all landscaping and French drain from the front. Water has also affected the heavy front door. This was the architect’s fault and asking to replace with fiberglass which is lighter and as attractive.

Ms. Durusau also stated the statue of Coach Robinson is peeling and Jules Babino has contacted vendor to pack up, remove, and refinish. Need to decide what will fill the space in the mean time as there is no timeline as to when it would be finished. She also shared that there is $57,00-58,000 still available in capital outlay funds. Possible uses: portrait on back wall, cabinets with LED lights vs fluorescent, and other inter-active exhibits. Mr. Belton stated that mats were purchased in the back and front.

**Visitor Count:**

Ms. Hallum noted that since the doors opened in 2010 there have been 30,686 visitors. More information is available on the website established by Jon Moss.

**Bradford donation**

James Bradford asked if the group other than Coach Ellis had ever heard of the “Lion’s Bowl”. He stated that in the 1940’s black schools had been allowed to play in Tech’s stadium and that he had been given a copy of a program from a 1947 game that he will donate to the museum.

With that the meeting was adjourned and the celebration of Coach Robinson’s birthday would begin.