

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE STATE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE MANSFIELD FEMALE COLLEGE MUSEUM
JANUARY 12, 2012 AT 2:00PM

Members Present: Ellen Abington, Carolyn Beaubouef, Beverly Bruce, Riemer Calhoun, John Freeman, Carolyn Huckabay, Raymond Powell, Judson Rives, Sand Spaulding and Dr. Alan Thompson.

Excused Member: Britney A. Green

Guests: Rowena Anderson & Marcia Calhoun

Museum Officials: Mary Durusau – State Director of Museums

Museum Staff: Barbara Valentine, Director

The State Governing Board for the Mansfield Female College Museum met in session at the museum on Thursday, January 12, 2012 in Mansfield, Louisiana. Mr. Raymond Powell, President of the Board, called the meeting to order, Dr. Alan Thompson let in prayer and Mr. Powell led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Powell introduced our special guest from the Secretary of State's Office, Mary Durusau, Director of Museums. He Also introduced the new director for the museum, Barbara Valentine as well as Mrs. Rowena Anderson, Past President of the Friends of the Mansfield Female College Museum, and Mrs. Marcia Calhoun, Vice President.

Motion was made by Carolyn Huckabay and seconded by Mr. John Freeman to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2011 meeting as presented. There was a unanimous vote to accept them.

Old Business:

Lyceum Project: Ms. Durusau gave an update on the progress the state's office had done regarding the description of the Lyceum Property. The Joint Legislative Committee on Natural Resources will have to meet to declare the property surplus. The Natural Resources committees will be headed by Sen. Gerald Long of Winnfield and Rep. Gordon Dove of Houma. The committee members were urged to contact these legislators for support declaring the Lyceum.

Ms. Durusau also said the Secretary of State's office is concerned about the state of the main building. If the cost of repairs is less than \$10,000 it can be bid by the Secretary of State's purchasing office. If it is over \$10,000, the project has to bid through State Purchasing. Mr. Riemer Calhoun gave Ms. Durusau some names of contractors to do the work. Ms. Sandy Spaulding is to get in touch with one of the contractors and get his information to Ms. Durusau.

Much discussion was held concerning the funds to restore the Lyceum Building. The need for the state to move on this project so the Friends of the Mansfield Female College Museum can get started on the renovation. Then the DeSoto Parish Police Jury can let the funds they allocated to this project. The Police Jury did not list the Museum as a line item. It was just put

in a group with other projects. The members all spoke of the necessity for each one to talk to their legislative representatives and jurors to help move the restoration forward.

Freeman asked if anything had been done to move the entrance to the museum from Monroe Street to Louisiana Street. Ms. Calhoun, Vice President of the Friends, stated that as soon as work starts on the Lyceum Building the entrance would probably be moved to the College Street entrance. It would be a better entrance for school buses and other large vehicles to enter that way.

Finance: The Friends have set up two checking accounts with better interest to be paid, one with Merrill Lynch and the other still at Capital One. It was suggested that the DeSoto Parish Police Jury would favor this arrangement.

MFCM: Judson Rives will serve as President for the coming year and Marcia Calhoun will remain Vice President. Powell asked Ms. Calhoun if she had anything to report and Ms. Calhoun presented the outgoing president Ms. Rowena Anderson with a gift of appreciation for all the work she has done.

Everyone was glad to have Ms. Abington back. She had been in a wreck about six weeks ago and it was a nice surprise to see her up and about.

There being no further business John Freeman made the motion to adjourn seconded by Carolyn Beaubouef. Unanimous vote - Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Valentine, Director