

Minutes
Friends of the Bayley House
Red Hot Summer Dance De-briefing Meeting
July 27, 2009, Bayley Barn

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Committee Members Attending: John Crane, Kris Syversen, Kim Syversen, Thiaa Besan, Gary Murray, Bill Bennett, Aloha Adams, Rich Meagher, Larry Syversen, Colleen Moore.

Guests and Volunteers Attending: Esther Prunella, Shelly and Rockne Van Buskirk, Jennifer Schack, Henri Santos-Coy, Nancy Barney and Phil Donahue.

Review of Financial Reports: Henri reviewed the budget she had prepared, which currently showed \$9208. income and \$4310. expenses. She stated that at least two bills were outstanding and that all the ticket money was not in, and that a complete report would be available as soon as those figures were in.

Aloha reviewed the amounts that were taken in on the night of the dance, other tickets sold, other income and Total Actual Deposits, which was \$9604., with approximately \$1,100 yet to be turned in. A complete report will be available when those figures are available.

Review of Food Provider: There were mixed opinions regarding the Johnsonville Brats, from not enough condiments and not that good to not enough and disappointment they were unable to buy more. It was agreed that we appreciated Henri's efforts to obtain the Brats and that a letter of thanks should be sent to Mike Lagenfeld, (which has been done). Some guests expressed disappointment that we did not have food such as in previous years. It was agreed that options for next year would be discussed at a later meeting.

Review of Booths: Those staffing the Beer and Wine expressed desire to have their booths next to the food next year, particularly to move them to the shady side of the Barn. It didn't appear that selling chips was worth bothering with.

Colleen Moore said she could have handled the Raffle Booth by herself and didn't appreciate that another volunteer had been provided to sell tickets to the crowd. She was also extremely critical of Aloha Adams and Henri Santos-Coy, accusing them of wanting to take "her booth" away from her. Aloha reminded her that it was not "her booth", but that it was an event booth and we needed to work as a team.

Thiaa reported that the Merchandise Booth was slow but did sell some of the new tank tee shirts.

Henri gave a report of her observations and recommendations, her comments were:

Friends is a committed group, but public view is "no change" in restoration.

The Raffle revenue for the amount of attendees was good; should raise awareness of the mission and the fund raising should increase year-after-year, a minimum of \$15,-\$20,000 should be raised for the amount of effort the volunteers put into the event.

July is a very hot month, causing lower attendance, also there were at least four other events that day, consider a month later in the year. Recommended September for this event and starting at 7:00 to 11:30, both bands play for 2 Hrs.

Recommends passing on the event for 2010, which many organizations do to give volunteers a break and then build momentum back the following year. Perhaps the economy will improve and we may be able to garner additional volunteers. Also recommends the committee decide if this is a "friend" raiser or a "fund" raiser and consider joining forces with another non-profit group.

Utilize local bands in the community as the Headliner, those that will donate their time or lower the price; consider having Blues Box Bayou Band as the Headliner. Those she spoke with thought BBBB was better dance music than Mick Martin.

Consider selling tickets in front of a grocery store on a Saturday. Doesn't recommend selling promo items.

Committee Chairs should attend 75% of all meetings, communication is key for this event.

Have Food donated from community restaurants and start asking for donations in January of that year and sponsorships in November of the prior year.

Possible changes for future events will be discussed at a future meeting.

Volunteers were great. We need a good grant writer.

General Discussion for future event:

Use one item for a door prize to encourage people to give name, address on stubs

Consider Apr/May, or Sept/Oct

Use Will Call for tickets instead of handing out Comp tickets

Separate the gate price and the food price, i.e., offer food at a separate price

Have a variety of foods available; need to have some kind of food available

Three hours of BBBB is too much; use a different kind of venue, Jazz, classical, etc.

Ask Country station 101.9 to get a country band

Consider reinstating the Harvest Ball in the Fall

Use cocktail tables around inside walls of barn for people to sit, or place them outside the big door

The following bands were suggested:

Mumbo Gumbo (they are big and donate)

Buckboard Bunch (free)

Old West (one member is a neighbor of Esther's)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45, due to darkness!

/s/ Aloha Adams

Co-Chairman