

**Old Fort Mountain Heritage Alliance
Board Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2008**

Members Present:

Dru Heldman, Chairperson, Pinwiltz Co. TAAS Gallery
Terrell Finley,
Deane Kanipe
Nada Carroll
Linda Bunch, OFMHA Secretary
Linda Canterbury, Old Fort Resident
Nancy Hicks, Old Fort Resident
Kim Lukasiak, OFMHA Vice President
Debbie Acrivos, Davidson Fort

Kim called the meeting to order. Introductions were made by all in attendance.

News and Updates from Community Organizations represented

McDowell TDA – Carol Price -in Carol's absence Kim reported the following:

Rail Road Day

May 17, 2008 Railroad Days Fundraiser for matching funds from 11-4

This event includes story tellers on Rail Road history, presentation on Train Safety for children, video at the Gateway Museum on Rail Road History in Western North Carolina, demonstrations at the little red caboose. Our plans are to sell hot dogs and drinks to raise additional funds for OFMHA. There will also be face painting and Dean has a contact to ask to volunteer.

A flyer was created by Carol Price and Wes Lael from the Old Fort Train Store will distribute some of the flyers in Spencer, NC at a Rail Road event the weekend of April 26th.

Buns for hotdogs can be purchased at the Bread store in Marion on E. Court St. We will need Hot dog wrappers and gloves. Nada Carroll volunteered to do slaw and Linda Bunch volunteered to bring change, onions and purchase ketchup, relish and mustard. In order to sell the hotdogs we **NEED VOLUNTEERS** [Individuals wishing to volunteer contact Linda Bunch at lmckbb@hughes.net or 828-668-9620](mailto:lmckbb@hughes.net)

Chamber of Commerce – Debbie Acrivos

Officer elections are in June to take the office in July. The Chamber is soliciting members. It is \$25.00 to join and members do not have the business owners.

Gateway Museum – Terrell Finley

Old Fort Pioneer Day is scheduled for April 26th from 10-5.

Summerfest begins June 14th with music this year in the evening at 7 p.m.

On June 14th David Holt and the Lightening Bolts will be the entertainment.

The last Saturday in June and July will be Summer Days and Summer Nights

Sunday afternoons from 2-5 will also have music at the Museum

See ncmuseum.gov website for more details and the link to the Gateway Museum.

McDowell Tech – Dean Kanipe

Dean reported a survey was being conducted to capture the needs of the community for long term planning. Carol has the survey information and there is a case statement for Davidson Fort.

Davidson Fort – Debbie Acrivos

The Fort will have a booth displaying the replica of Fort Davidson at Pioneer Day. To raise funds individuals can buy a log for \$100.00.

Economic Development – Dru Heldman

Dru and Kim reported that OFMHA assisted in support to Davidson Fort's presentation to the Old Fort Aldermen requesting their co signing for a loan from BB&T. In this presentation Kim and Dru educated the Aldermen about the history of the Fort and what the Fort will mean economically to Old Fort in the coming years. There is estimated revenue of \$675,000. We need the tourism for revitalization of the town. Rick Acrivos will be putting an article in the newspaper.

TAAS – June is the 2 year anniversary of TAAS. June 19th TAAS is hosting McDowell Chamber of Commerce and Natalia Weinstein; a violinist will be present for background music. In addition Bob Travers will be the featured artist at TAAS in the month of June.

Rockett Building – the doors and parts of the exterior have been painted with funds of \$66 donated by local businesses. Additional utilization of the Building is waiting on Resource Team recommendations.

Design Committee – Terry Wilson (Linda Bunch reported in Terry's absence)

Bradley Part Work day – date to beautify the park with funds raised on March 13th was scheduled for May 8th from 4-7. Dru reported that Jeff Silver would be asked to make a sign (Signs by Design) indicated that this is a project of OFMHA. Debbie indicated that she would ask Whistle Stop if they would donate pizza to the volunteers. Terrell reported that he had a utility truck and could get the mulch delivered. The cost is \$75.00 a truck load.

Notes from David Quinn

David is working on the Resource Team Report, but it will be a while.
DCA is working on the mapping for downtown buildings and properties.
Please remember the Small Towns Cluster Gathering at Warren Wilson College on May 21st, 9:30 to 3:30. David will be getting out a notice early next week.

Next Meeting

The next Steering Committee meeting will be Wednesday May 14, 2008 at 3:00 p. m. at the Depot. The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Linda Bunch, OFMHA Secretary
May 2, 2008