

# Morgan County Resource Preservation Advisory Board

Regular Meeting  
October 13, 2009  
5:30 p.m.  
Minutes

Present: Carol Cross, Sarah Lynn McHugh, Elzata Brown, Ona Nunn, Gail Wade  
Also Present: Tara Cooner, Danielle Peck

## **I. Opening and Welcome**

Carol Cross welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. It was noted that the Board was not meeting in their usual location of the Planning and Development Conference room. Instead, the meeting was held in the small conference room across from the County Manager's office.

## **II. Approval of Minutes from September 8, 2009 meeting**

With the unanimous consent of all members, the Minutes were approved as presented.

## **III. Update on video transcribing and editing**

Danielle Peck explained that the interview transcriptions were almost complete; she only lacked finishing the last one. Tara Cooner explained the editing process and that over half of the filmed interviews should be completely edited by the end of the month.

## **IV. Update on photo scanning**

Ms. Cooner informed the Board that all but one box of historic photos from County Archives had been scanned. She mentioned that Val McGeary and Ed Prior had offered to let staff bring the scanner to their homes to scan additional historical information. She asked the Board if it would be acceptable to wait until after the website was launched, due to the task of organizing the information already gathered. The Board agreed that it was acceptable to wait until a later date. Ms. Cooner explained that the goal was to launch the website in time to allow for feedback from the community and stressed that the Board should encourage feedback to the Board of Commissioners. Ms. Cross mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce's website is very effective and generates very good traffic. She expects that the Heritage site will be just as successful.

## **V. Update on Morgan County Heritage website development proposals**

Ms. Cooner informed the Board that staff had met with two web development companies and both were very good and highly recommended. She passed around the proposals that had been submitted from Maybe for You, Inc. and Extra-U. Both were offering similar services for a similar price, however, Extra-U was allowing more opportunities for review and comment. Staff had scheduled a follow-up meeting with Extra-U on October 14 to discuss their proposal in greater detail.

Ms. Cross expressed a concern that the Board might not be able to review the development of the website, due to the timing of project submittals for approval and the monthly meeting schedule. All members stressed that they would like to be involved in the review process and that they were agreeable to called meetings to see the submittals.

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Ms. Cooner explained that the only technological kink still to be resolved was the video storage. Morgan County had recently improved their server and it was possible to host the site from the county, however, the large amount of video to be on the site would possibly require the use of an outside video hosting facility. Ms. Cooner said that YouTube had been suggested but that staff felt uncomfortable allowing the video to be given to that company. Ms. Cross, an interview participant, was strongly opposed to using YouTube. Elzata Brown, also an interview participant, was opposed as well. Ms. Cooner said that staff was researching other options.

### **VI. Additional business**

Ms. Cooner said that there had been some discussion regarding offering the Cemetery Book on CD, since the paper copies were sold out. The Board agreed that offering the book in an alternate format was a good idea. Ms. Cross mentioned that June Harrell was also writing a book on cemeteries.

Ms. Cooner informed the Board that she had researched the Library of Congress website regarding Morgan County history and had located several photos, which she would show the following month. She shared a copy of a narrative from an ex-slave named Alec Bostwick, who was owned by the Bostwick family. Ms. Cross said she had also seen narratives from ex-slaves of Joshua Hill and the Gresham family. Ms. Cooner said she would go back to the website to see if she could locate those.

Ms. Cooner explained that a Mr. Sewell from Dalton, Georgia was interested in establishing a trust fund for the perpetual care of the Reese Community Cemetery. He has requested a meeting with the County Manager and Commissioner Ellen Warren to discuss the possibility of the county managing the trust.

Ms. Cooner reviewed the names of the communities that were to be featured in the initial launch of the Morgan County Heritage website. Staff has had some difficulty locating information and photographs for several communities. Board members discussed possible sources of information.

### **VII. Adjourn**

Carol Cross adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

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Gail Wade, Vice-Chairman

Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tara Cooner, Secretary

Date \_\_\_\_\_