

**CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MINUTES
November 18, 2009**

**Chris Landram
Bob Landram
Doris DeFer
Bob DeFer
Arland Stemme
Jodi Nowotny**

**Tom Nowotny
Joan Schacht
Shawn Seymour
Barbara Whitman
Dan Rothwell**

Ann Fleming, guest

Commission Chair Barbara Whitman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

The minutes of the October meeting were approved after discussion of notation in minutes questioning when the city first recognized the Historical Commission in minutes of the city council. It was determined that the date was July 5, 1988.

Ann Fleming was introduced by Joan Schacht. Ann is on the Board of the St. Louis County Library Foundation and explained her role in a group which is working to raise approximately \$15,000,000 to build a new 40,000 square foot history library in Chesterfield. The building would house genealogy/history/art records now contained in the St. Louis County main library at Lindbergh and Clayton Roads. Louis Sachs has given property on Wild Horse Creek Road and they have an architectural plan for a museum quality 2 story building, but it will take large donors to get this project off the ground. Naming rights will be included with a large gift. She asked for the commission's help in supporting this endeavor and would appreciate any input we may have. The project was favorably received and we will assist as we can. Ann can be reached at 636-532-5834.

FINACIAL REPORT: \$17,658.15

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Calendar – 700 calendars were printed. Jodi Nowotny said the family she is interviewing, Eleanor Sellenrienk Abemeyer, would like to have a photo of their farm in the calendar next year. Arland said there will be a calendar meeting in the spring when plans for photos and sponsors will be made and it will be included. 40 calendars were purchased by commission members, 18 by Dierbergs and 4 at Chamber of Commerce meeting this month.

Books – 2 coloring books were sold – Bob DeFer gave all copies of coloring books, Dan’s book and Mark Leach’s book to Dan Rothwell for storage and there are a few more books stored at City Hall.

History book – Joan Schacht reported that she had 5 tapes she recorded that have not come back from those interviewed, so that they cannot be quoted in the book. Jodi Nowotny will record and type up the interview she will have with Mrs. Eleanor Sellenrienk Abemeyer and her daughter Mary Meyer, at their White Road farmhouse. There will be a book meeting at Joan Schacht’s on Thursday, November 19.

Archeology – Joan Schacht toured the Chesterfield Valley site and said they have found amazing things there and feel that the area could be as important as Cahokia. The time for exploration has been extended.

NEW BUSINESS:

The committee suggests a program by archeologist Joel Harrel, a renowned archeologist who has explored Chesterfield sites, be given at City Hall. The committee would like the City to promote such a program.

The web site and Facebook have not been updated to include the commission. Dan will contact and work with Matt Haug, Chesterfield webmaster, and ask him to include the commission’s mission statement and archeology report.

A map of Old Chesterfield, c1930-1940, drawn by Kathleen Bierbrauer Reinke was distributed to members.

Chris and Bob Landram will be selling our books on December 6 from 1-3 at the St. Louis Genealogy Society’s Jamboree at their headquarters on Sunnen Drive at Manchester Road in Brentwood.

Dan Rothwell led a tour of Chesterfield Historical sites for 16 residents of Friendship Village.

There will be a Christmas Party and joint meeting of the Historical Commission and the Landmarks Commission at the home of Doris and Bob DeFer on Wednesday, December 9 at 6:00 p.m. They live at 122 Del Monte Court, Four Seasons Subdivision. Spouses welcome.

Barbara suggested a yearly bulletin board or photo revue be placed in City Hall showing what has gone on during the year in Chesterfield and committee members could plan and collect for this representation. It will be discussed further.

Adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Doris DeFer