

G.A.R. Memorial Hall Board of Trustees

Meeting March 26, 2013

Minutes

National Guard Armory Room C, 50 Skyline Drive, Worcester, Massachusetts

Meeting Began at 5:34 p.m.

Present: Daniel McAuliffe, Reynaldo Rodriguez, Robert Grogan, Aaron Richman, Timothy Boucher

Minutes of the December 18th were approved.

Old Business:

1. Chairman McAuliffe updated the Board on the storage of items that belonged to George Frissell. According to Chairman McAuliffe the property that was on display at the National Guard Armory Museum were accepted for storage by the Worcester Historical Society Museum.
2. Chairman McAuliffe suggested in regards to the Board Membership Books that the minutes and other material be kept out of them. According to Chairman McAuliffe the idea of the books are to store general information about what the Board member needs to know. Minutes would only increase the size of the book making it too large to carry around. The minutes along with other documents would be kept at Skyline Drive. The Board agreed with this suggestion and to keep it an ongoing project. Secretary Reynaldo Rodriguez handed over to the Board the individual artifact sheets in clear plastic containers for the membership books.
3. Tim Boucher updated the Board on the funds. According to Mr. Boucher there are two accounts. One account is overseen by a board that watches all city board trusts. The other is the amount used by the G.A.R Board itself. According to Mr. Boucher, a \$1700.00 invoice is an amount still to be paid, a purchase order for \$326.37 from Home Depot will be returned, a purchase order for \$324.95 for Uhaul will be returned, and \$385 for the Chairman will be returned. In total there is exactly \$6,461.62 available for use by the Board. Chairman McAuliffe briefly explained to the Board for the benefit of new member Mr. Aaron Richman about the funds .
4. Mr. Robert Grogan followed up on his suggestion at a previous meeting in regards to ways to increase interest as to the Board's existence. Mr. Grogan suggested starting a heritage check by getting a membership to a vendor like Ancestry.com. The Board discussed the idea. Chairman McAuliffe reminded the Board that all funds used have to be related to the artifacts. McAuliffe suggested that research can be paid for and used the example of the Midyett Bible. Mr. Boucher added that a potential problem with a membership would mean a monthly expense. It was discussed that hiring a person for an individual search would be better than paying for a monthly membership. Chairman McAuliffe asked Mr. Grogan to get a cost for a future meeting.
5. Chairman McAuliffe began a discussion on the future of the CSA flags beyond 2015. Mr. Grogan wondered why they couldn't stay somewhere in North Carolina. Mr. Rodriguez wasn't sure of anyplace in Worcester that would be interested. Mr. Rodriguez suggested that the unfortunate

truth is that few people or places might be interested in displaying them in Worcester at all. The Board agreed that just storing flags is no longer an option. Money was put into restoring the flags and preparing them to be displayed. Therefore the flags should be put on display somewhere. Chairman McAuliffe reminded the Board that there are a few places in North Carolina as well. One of the places that could be a possibility according to Chairman McAuliffe is a place in Richmond, Virginia called the TREDEGAR (Trades Gear Iron Works). Another place is the Museum of the Albemarle which would be interested in extended their terms with the flags. The museum could possibly display one every so often and rotate them. Mr. Grogan made a motion to extend the time and Mr. Rodriguez seconded it. Motion was approved but Chairman McAuliffe pointed out that the museum could close and then the issue will come up again as to where the flags should and could go.

6. Chairman McAuliffe reported that the names of the members of the Board have been given to the Worcester Historical Society so that members could have access to the artifacts.
7. Chairman McAuliffe updated the Board on his southern trip using a laptop computer. During the trip he represented the Board at the Museum of the Albemarle and made a presentation on the Bell of the Albemarle and the CSA flags. The Ft. Thompson flag is at MOA. He also visited Cold Harbor, Drewys Bluff, Malvern Hill, Charleston's CSS Hunley (first successful submarine), the Shenandoah Valley, and Gettysburg.

New Business:

1. Chairman McAuliffe and the Board welcomed new Trustee Aaron Richman to the G.A.R. Board.
2. Chairman McAuliffe handed out updated Board contact information to all members to include Mr. Richman.
3. Secretary Rodriguez will be working with Mr. Boucher on updating the city's website in regards to the description of the G.A.R Board.
4. Mr. Grogan followed up with the Board on his facebook idea. Mr. Grogan made a motion about putting the G.A.R. Board on a Facebook web page. The motion was seconded by Chairman McAuliffe. The Board approved the motion. Mr. Grogan told the Board that he would get it started and asked Mr. Boucher if he can have a link between the facebook page and the city website and vice versa.

Being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6:07 pm

The next meeting will be on Tuesday May 14, 2013 at 5:30 pm at the National Guard Armory on Skyline Drive.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reynaldo Rodriguez

Secretary, GAR Memorial Hall Board of Trustees