

## HAF Board Minutes 4/20/10

President Ross Culligan convened the meeting at 5:30 at the Aiken County Historical Museum. Present were Bill Brockington, Owen Clary, Ross Culligan, Jane Davis, Jim Farmer, Chuck Leopold, Elliott Levy, Roy McLain, Colleen Reed, and Robert Stack.

The minutes of the February 16 meeting were approved as presented.

Roy distributed copies of the Financial Statement and reviewed it with the board. Jane asked if any board members were attending chamber meetings and if we are getting value for this \$275.00 expense. Elliott, Ross, and Owen said they had attended. Ross noted that all board members can attend chamber functions including First Friday Breakfasts (\$15.00) and said he would send emails regarding reservations. He also noted that the HAF board is invited to the Aiken 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary picnic at Rye Patch on May 4.

### Old Business

1. Gregg Buttery/Creamery - Elliott Levy said if it becomes available to HAF he wants to put an iron gate on it and move it to the Museum. A meeting with Clay Bolton will take place this Thursday, and Elliott, Ross and Colleen will attend. Ross wants to ask the bank to give it to HAF if we move it. Elliott has an estimate of \$35,000 to rebuild it at the Museum. No action taken.
2. Coker Spring – a representative of a gravel company has looked at it with Tom Rapp, regarding a four foot wide path to the spring. Split rail fencing is planned. City labor is tied up with other projects, so this will be delayed a while.
3. Williams cemetery – Owen reported finding that Alfred Andrew Dexter and Sara Williams Dexter are not buried there. He noted that a one-day clean-up, inviting members to participate, would be sufficient to make the cemetery attractive. He added that he hoped an historical marker could be erected there. As to who owns the property, Jane said she recalled the Von Stade family paid taxes on the lot some years ago, but she doesn't know who owns it. She volunteered to check on that later this year.
4. DVD of old Aiken home movie – Ross reported no progress on identifying the people in the film.
5. Dues payments – Ross noted that memberships are down as of now, and that Rossi is to report to him on dues payments by board members. Roy said he would send Ross any information he has on dues payments. Robert suggested phone calls to those whose dues have lapsed, after we hear from Rossi.

### New Business

1. Corporate Donor Program – Robert suggested starting with one corporate membership of \$500 per year, to sponsor the annual HAF awards. Discussion raised the following points: Southern Bank or Security Federal would be good candidates, sponsorship would be announced and a representative of

the sponsor would present the awards at the annual meeting. Chuck moved, and Colleen seconded, that Robert proceed with this plan. The motion passed.

2. Committee Reports:  
Nothing from Membership

Nominating – Jane noted that no one is doing it now. This will be on the agenda in September.

Awards - Robert suggested adding a Leadership for Infill Project award, and mentioned the law offices at Richland and Faubourg and a home on Chesterfield between Edgefield and Abbeville as possibilities. Robert then noted the need for a definition on the “Landmark Property” plaque. He suggested Ola Hitt’s home, which will go to St. John’s Methodist upon her death.

Hospitality – no report.

Publicity – Jim asked for discussion on whether HAF could get publicity by being involved in the Railroad Depot project, now scheduled to open in September, perhaps making a contribution to its cost. Others thought this inappropriate under HAF bylaws, but an infill award was mentioned as a possibility. Ross noted that we will revisit the bylaws at the September board meeting.

Book inventory – Roy reported that Nandina had sold five more copies and Aiken Office Supply seven. The Chamber had sold none recently. Owen suggested the Visitors Center in the Holley Building as a good outlet. Robert suggested the possibility of doing a book on Aiken similar to the one recently published on Edgefield (The Story of Edgefield). Jim commented on the extensive preparation involved in that book and its success in sales. Chuck noted that Allen Riddick’s book on Aiken since 1950 will be published soon.

Field Trips – Bill shared his experiences leading field trips with students and suggested a bus (preferred) or caravan tour of Aiken County historical sites with a map provided. A Sunday afternoon in the fall was suggested as a good time. Other possibilities include the South Carolina Archives, the State House and grounds, the State Museum, and Ninety Six (Revolutionary War site). Ross asked Bill and Owen to propose one or more trips.

Ross asked for suggestions on a speaker for our next membership meeting. None were given.

The next HAF board meeting will be September 21.  
Jim Farmer, acting secretary.