

# NORTH LITTLE ROCK HISTORY COMMISSION

## MINUTES

February 10, 2015  
6:00 P.M.  
506 Main Street  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

### Commission Members Present:

Suzanne Jackson, Chairman  
Herman Shirley  
Eartha Dobbins  
Connie Woodard  
Belinda Sykes Burney  
Ann Clements  
Jon Beavers

### Others Present:

Sandra Taylor Smith, Director  
Cary Bradburn, Historian  
Diane Whitbey, NLR City Clerk

### Commission Members Absent:

Kristal Clark

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Commission Chairman Suzanne Jackson called the February 10, 2015 meeting of the North Little Rock History Commission meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. and quorum was established. Commissioner Kristal Clark was unable to attend the meeting. New Commissioner Connie Woodard was welcomed.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Ms. Jackson asked if Commissioners had read the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting. Herman Shirley made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Eartha Dobbins seconded the motion and it was approved by all in voice vote.

### **STAFF REPORT:**

Sandra Smith reported on items that have been donated to the History Commission archives since January 2015:

1. Letter jacket and sweater from 4<sup>th</sup> Street Junior High School- Donated by Michael "Cricket" Rhodes
2. 5 scrapbooks compiled by the North Little Rock Health Department 1963-1980- Donated by the North Little Rock Health Department
3. 1932 North Little Rock High School Annual- Donated by Melissa Huston
4. Six advertisement nail files- NLR businesses- Donated by Mary Ruth Morgan
5. Commemorative Plate- Rose City Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Miscellaneous newspaper clippings- Donated by Marsha "Toni" Clements Sandall

Ann Clements reported that the Arkansas History Commission will be applying for a grant from the Arkansas Humanities Council to hold a World War I workshop/seminar on August 29. The North Little Rock History Commission will work in conjunction with the AHC on this project.

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Herman Shirley said the Antiques Road Show will be in central Arkansas on July 25. Discussion was held about possibly having a "North Little Rock" antique roadshow. Connie Woodard said she and her husband had antiques shops in the past. Suzanne Jackson asked Ms. Woodard to formulate a plan for a program concerning antiques this summer.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

Suzanne Jackson told Commissioners she and Sandra Smith met with Marci Robertson with the AR Arts Center, formerly with the Museum of Discovery. Ms. Robertson suggested that the NLR History Commission needs to identify itself as a venue and establish a brand name and logo. Ms. Jackson said a visioning/brainstorming session is needed and suggested meeting at 5:00 p.m. on March 10, prior to the regular History Commission meeting. Food will be provided and all can discuss ideas for programs, goals, tag lines, etc. Ms. Jackson suggested a potential tag line for the Commission's facility - "Where History Is Present". Connie Woodard made a motion to hold a visioning session at 5p.m. March 10. Herman Shirley seconded the motion and it was approved by all.

Ms. Jackson told Commissioners about a Soap Box Derby scheduled for August 22. It is being developed through the Lakewood Middle School East Initiative and is planned to take place on the Main Street viaduct. She suggested the History Commission might want to be involved if the event does take place downtown. Herman Shirley made a motion to participate in some way in the Soap Box Derby and Belinda Burney seconded the motion. It was approved by all in voice vote.

It was also announced that Ridgeroad Junior High School will become an elementary school and there is a planned run from Ridgeroad to Lakewood Middle School.

**DISCUSSION:**

Belinda Burney said the Black History Program is on schedule and will be held on February 21 from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. at the First Baptist Church on Main Street. She has prepared flyers for the program and is working on the program.

Herman Shirley is compiling a list of North Little Rock people to interview concerning their memories of the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Sandra Smith said Jim Billings with the Mayor's office has said he would set up video recording equipment for the interviews.

Suzanne Jackson said a possible future program could be Nate Powell, originally from North Little Rock, to discuss his illustrations.

After determining there were no additional issues to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

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Sandra Taylor Smith, Director