

# MINUTES QUARTERLY MEETING (DRAFT)

Walden's Ridge Civic League

7:00 PM, January 16, 2025 - W R Civic League Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

Present were Mark Dwyer, Johanne Albright, Neal Cox, Judith Dwyer, Vicki Love and Karen Stone. Absent were Carolyn Longphre, Rita Irvin, and Roxie Thornton.

President Mark Dwyer welcomed everyone.

Minutes of the July Quarterly Meeting were approved as posted on the website.

Treasurer Neal Cox gave the treasurer's report with details for the months of November and December 2024. Copies of the reports are available from the treasurer and from the interim secretary, Karen Stone.

## Reports:

**FACILITIES** - Mark Dwyer: Ethan Holden and staff working on the National Register of Historic Places came to gather more information and visit the site on December 12, 2024. Mr. Holden told us personally that we can begin replacing the siding as long as we are restoring the building to the way it used to be during the period in the application. Since the siding was originally board and batten, and we plan to use white oak cut from local trees to install board and batten, we can begin replacing the siding now. Mr. Kneff has some white oak logs on his property, and as soon as those can be retrieved, we will have those sawn. This should give us enough to complete the job and to have some overage. The wood in the drying kiln is ready, and Mark turned off the drying unit to conserve power and reduce cost.

**MEMBERSHIP** – Mark Dwyer announced that the membership drive is under way, and a story about membership will be in the Feb. *Mt. Mirror*

**EVENTS** – Karen Stone reported that *Merry Mt. Christmas* on Dec. 20 was well received by our guests. The cold required moving everything inside, and the planned hayride with inflatables had to be cancelled because of sub-freezing temperature and wind chill. The event did not produce the hoped for revenue without the hayride, so expenses surpassed income by about \$200. Consensus was the event should be continued in spite of the small loss, since it is popular, fills a need, and fits our mission of offering traditional activities.

*Tell It on the Mountain* storytelling is scheduled for Friday April 4, 2024. Doors will open at 5:30. Storytelling will begin at 6:00. Stories for children will be in the first 30-45 minutes, with more adult stories until about 8:00. Cleveland Storytelling Guild is performing, and they will be asked to tell new stories. We are trying to get the schools to provide some storytellers, and we are asking Alexian to provide storytellers and bring a bus of listeners. Karen will ask Jed Mescon or Bob Gray to serve as MC. We will offer the same hot dog-based menu as for Merry Mt. Christmas.

## New Business

**NEW HEAT-AIR SYSTEM:** The high cost of heating and cooling the entire building was considered again. A new heating system for the prop room was discussed. An informal estimate from Mark St. George for a mini split unit was \$2,800 - \$3,000. Mark will get bids. Consensus is that having one room that has an independent heating and air conditioning system will help lower costs of utilities for board meetings, etc., and pay for itself in rentals

within a year or two. Scriptorium Hall and Joe Clawson's Sunday meetings were used as bases for estimating potential rental income. Since this is an infrastructure improvement, and since the gift from Walden in 2020 was, in spirit, for infrastructure, funds waiting in the bank can be used for the improvement. The cost of siding is below the original estimates because we are cutting our own lumber, so money for heat/air is available.

**HIGHWAY PATROL BUILDING:** the soil test to determine if we can put in enough field lines to serve several toilets is still pending. Mark had a quote of over \$10,000 for new decking, removing fiberglass insulation and new metal roof. Board alarm at the potential cost requires Mark to get more bids.

**NEWLY CLEARED NATURAL AREA (BOY SCOUT CABIN FOUNDATION):**

Johanne Albright is in charge of investigating native plants for the new boy scout cabin area. Melissa Nimon is going to meet with Johanne and give ideas for landscaping the entire property. Mark is going to ask Jack Kruesi if he will let us dig some hemlocks to plant around the perimeter to screen the neighbors' properties. Karen Stone said that she had a wedding planner look at the area. The planner was very excited about the look of the scout cabin ruins and said that with improvements to the highway patrol building (restrooms & kitchen) the site could be a paying wedding venue. Karen also said Nathaniel Bankhead of Wild Violet Permaculture is holding a workshop this spring and would like to use WRCL for a demonstration water garden to help solve our problem with the low wet area at the edge of the soccer field. Approval from the board to pursue.

**SOCCER GOALS:** To make the property more versatile, the soccer goals could be made portable instead of permanent. This would make the field more suitable for rentals to produce income. This was a recommendation from the wedding planner. Further discussion tabled for future consideration.

**CALENDAR:** Judith Dwyer volunteered to keep the WRCL calendar and coordinate with other nonprofits on the mountain.

March 17-21 spring break

March 29-30 Wayside needs our parking lot

**April 4 Tell It on the Mt.**

May 22 school out for the summer

**June 7 Birthday Bash**

Oct 13-17 fall break

**Oct 3-4 Smoke on the Mt.**

Oct 17-19 (Fri-/sun) Wayside conference – need parking lot

August 7-10 yard sale 127

**Dec 19 Merry Mt. Christmas**

There were no communications from members.

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting is Thursday, April 17, 2025, 7:00 PM

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM

Respectfully submitted, Karen Stone, Interim Secretary