

Town of Richlands
Section House Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2022

Attendance: Lynna Mitchell (chair), Greg Horn, Eleanor Armes, Rod Cury, Zadin Lawson, Brad Lawson, Sandra Culler, Donna Altizer, Corey Whited, Sandra Keene (guest), Tonya Blankenship (guest)

- I. Call to order—Meeting convened at 5:00pm; Lynna welcomed Sandra Culler as a new Board member.
- II. Minutes—Minutes from 7/14 were approved.
- III. Photography contest—Sandra Keene and Tonya Blankenship visited to discuss logistics of planned photography contest. Sandra provided draft of possible contest guidelines adapted from 2022 Kingsport Spring Spectacular contest; possible categories and prizes were discussed, as well as possible sponsors, schedule, and display details. It was agreed that contest should be announced in Jan. 2022 and conducted in March, possibly using a train/railroad theme. Rod suggested we may schedule the contest around or near St. Patrick's Day, which is on a Friday. Corey agreed to contact SWCC personnel about obtaining display boards. Possible sponsors to contact may include CVCH, Ramey's, Grant's, The Railway Depot, and Vance Graphics. Sandra Culler suggested a formal letter to each, then a face-to-face meeting.
- IV. "Don't Stop Believing" run—Lynna commended Corey, Eleanor, Brad and Donna on their help with the 5K/10K run held at the Section House on July 30.
- V. Model train—Lynna suggested we use our donated train as part of decorations for this Christmas; Donna mentioned Bristol, TN train display that integrates model trains into a tree; may follow up with someone from Bristol for details. Eleanor shared that she had talked to Jim Boyd about how to contact train carver David Cunningham, but Jim does not have contact info. for him.
- VI. Section House painting—Rod contacted Travis Hackworth about an estimate directly Following our last meeting; Travis followed up that he would have someone contact Rod about it; Rod has not heard anything yet. A formal estimate is required before we can proceed with applying for any possible grants for this project.

- VII. Section House brochures/marketing photos—Lynna continues to work on preparing these.
- VIII. 501 (c) (3) designation—Lynna relayed a message from Mary that accountant Mike Shortridge advises that securing this status will involve designating a board, filing an annual financial report, etc. Mike suggests talking to the Teen Center about how they obtained their designation. Donna suggests talking to Earlene Butcher from the Richlands Garden club; she thinks the club obtained a 501 (c) (3) designation, as did Ramp Up Richlands.
- IX. Train excursion—Lynna mentioned that we are still considering a train excursion.
- X. Events on hold—Rod has contacted Elaine O’Quinn about offering an art exhibit this fall, but he has not heard back from her.
- XI. Other business—(1) Lynna suggested February 6, 2023 as our date for next year’s Honey Festival activity; (2) Donna mentioned that she will attend a Virginia Tourism conference in Wytheville on August 22; she expects to obtain valuable information and contacts related to grants and other tourism opportunities.
- XIII. Next meeting date—Tues. 9/20 at 5:00pm at the Section House.
- XIV. Adjournment--Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm.

Minutes prepared by Greg Horn
August 12, 2022