

Fort Mill History Museum
Annual Membership Meeting Minutes - Jan 26, 2023
Fort Mill Church of God Center for Discipleship Building

Welcome/Call to Order:

David Ward, Jr. called the meeting to order at 3:32 pm and thanked everyone for attending and their support of the museum. Ashley Taylor, FMHM Treasurer, agreed to be the scribe and record the meeting minutes.

Thanks to our Outgoing Board Member

D. Ward thanked Chuck Epps, Superintendent of the Fort Mill School District, for his three-year term (Jan 2020 – Jan 2023) on the board. The partnership between FMHM and the Fort Mill School District strengthened during C. Epps' term. A key initiative approved by C. Epps was the implementation of the FMHM Board of Directors High School Representative program. This program consists of three 11th graders, one from each of the three high schools, serving a year term on the Board of Directors.

Introduction/Approval of 2023 FMHM Officers

The following slate of officers were presented for 2023.

- David Ward, Jr. - Chair
- Steven Bivins - Vice Chair
- Ashley Taylor - Treasurer
- Jenny Overman - Secretary

A motion to accept the officers as listed was made by Chris Wolfe and seconded by Mike Short. C. Wolfe motioned to close the nominations, seconded by M. Short. Vote was unanimously approved by the membership.

Introduction/Approval of New Board of Directors

The following names were presented for nomination as FMHM Board of Directors for the three-year term of Jan. 2023 – Jan. 2026.

- Juanita Sanders – Retired – Fort Mill School District
- Eddie Young – Fort Mill School District

A motion to accept the names as listed was made by Chris Wolfe and seconded by Mike Short. C. Wolfe motioned to close the nominations, seconded by Jim Cozzolongo. Vote was unanimously approved by the membership.

Safety Moment

D. Ward paused the meeting to perform the Safety Announcement that should have taken place at the beginning of the meeting. D. Ward explained the exit route and requested Jim Cozzolongo to be the lead in case of an evacuation and D. Ward to bring up the rear to ensure all participants have exited the building. The muster (meeting area) is at the brick lined disposal structure at the rear of the Center for Discipleship Building.

Extension of Current FMHM Board of Directors Members Terms

D. Ward announced two current board members, Avery Bivens and James Shirey, have agreed to serve a second three-year term.

Treasurer's Report

Ashley Taylor, FMHM Treasurer, presented the following financial information:

- Christia Humburg has worked tirelessly with the town and on the ATAX committee with her hard work paying off with the town awarding the museum \$67,500 for the 2022-2023 grant period.
- The Let's Make the Mortgage Campaign was successful with raising enough funds to pay off the museum's mortgage making the museum debt free in 2023. Jim Camann was in attendance and the person who sold the house to the museum in 2015. J. Camann was thanked for his support of the museum and especially delaying monthly payments in 2020 during the Covid-19 pandemic when museum funds were very limited.
- The 2022 museum events were successful this year: The scheduled Lanterns & Legends tours were sold out along with hosting several private L&L tours.
- The museum held its first Strawberry Soiree in April which had a great turnout and met the event budget. This is great for a first-time event!
- The museum's partnership with Amor Artis and the Town of Fort Mill was a huge help in 2022. The museum raised almost \$10,000 from staffing the beer tents which doesn't include the funds raised from the Strawberry Festival beer sales.
- The museum had the second highest year in sponsorships. In 2019 which was the highest year of sponsorship dollars, the museum received \$35,500. For 2022, the museum raised \$33,350 which is significantly higher than the last few years.
- The FMHM 2023-2024 Budget is posted to the FMHM website under the "About Us" then "FMHM Governance Documents" section.

2022 Accomplishments / Executive Director Update

Christia Humburg, FMHM Executive Director, presented the museum's 2022 accomplishments. The details are presented in Appendix A of this document.

Chairman Remarks

D. Ward provided the following highlights regarding the museum and future initiatives:

- Thanked C. Humburg for her hard work leading the museum; the FMHM Executive Team for their contributions and input; and the FMHM Board of Directors for their support and engagement with community partnerships.
- FMHM is in the second year of the Board of Directors High School Representative program which provides insight from the younger people in Fort Mill. The High School Representatives participate in the board meetings and work on special projects.
- The 2023-2025 Strategic Plan is available via the FMHM website under the "About Us" then "FMHM Governance Documents" The FMHM Team Leads are invited to join our board meetings this year.
- Commented on the importance of the FMHM volunteers and how instrumental they are in the successful operations of the museum. There are plenty of activities, opportunities, and tasks available for people to get involved.

Adjournment

With all business completed, D. Ward adjourned the annual FMHM meeting at 4:12 pm.

Respectfully Submitted – Ashley Taylor
January 26, 2023

Appendix A

FMHM Annual Membership Meeting-Directors Report 1.26.23

Hello everyone, I'm Christia Humburg and I am the Executive Director.

Thank you all so much for coming today and all that you give to the museum, your time, your knowledge, and your financial support.

This past year was extremely full. Full of events, organizing, meetings, volunteering, building relationships and full of us continuing to share Fort Mill's story with our community and visitors from all over the world. Covid is behind us, but we are still dealing with some of the obstacles that it brought. However, despite the year's challenges we worked together, increased our volunteer numbers, event numbers, funding and were only closed a few days due to weather.

Our successes for 2022 were many:

- The strategic plan, budget and most of the team minutes are on the website.
- Held our annual board retreat and annual member meeting in January.
- Continued with our Let's Make the Mortgage History campaign and have been able to pay the mortgage off. Ashley Taylor & I met Jim Camann in early January and paid off the mortgage in full.
- Through a partnership with Winthrop last spring, we had an intern that Charlotte Adkins and I mentored. Sarah Loyd was very responsible, approachable, and eager to give the job 100%. Sarah graduated in May and has gone onto graduate school.
- The Newsletter is being dispersed quarterly and continues to receive positive feedback. If you aren't getting these, they live on the website but please let me know so that I can make sure that you are receiving them. Eblasts are sent out monthly.
- Advertised in SC Living and Charlotte Magazines. We continue to work with Visit York County, SC Welcome centers, and the Olde English District to increase our tourism attendance.
- Active on Facebook & Instagram, with engagement continuing to increase.
- Carson Cope, our Collections manager, continues to do a great job with the items that we receive.
- Amanda Baer was hired as our Communications Manager in February. She handles social media, newsletters, the website, eblasts and more.
- Birgit Taylor with White Paw Studio is our graphic designer that works on an as needed basis for multiple projects.
- The High School Board Representative project is in its 2nd year. A FMSD student from each high school is represented.
- Worked with the Town of Fort Mill on the Strawberry Scavenger Hunt, Strawberry Fest & Jam beer sales, and several other beer sales fundraising events.
- Maintained a partnership with Amor Artis and Hobos on multiple downtown events and park events for fundraising for the alcohol sales.
- Held our Inaugural Strawberry Soiree in April with a silent auction, DJ, dancing, food, open bar and an exhibit on the Strawberry Pageant from Past to Present.
- Saw several groups in the museum such as homeschool groups, Carolina Orchards, and other private groups.
- Held the annual ornament unveiling.

- The Doraskis did Pioneer Crafts at the Farmers Market, on the back porch. They worked with Madison Martin on the Scarecrows and so much more.
- Participated in the annual Christmas parade.
- Held a major event with the George Fish committee in October. It was a 2-day event that recognized the George Fish school, had a panel discussion, included the historical marker dedication and celebrated our community.
- Lanterns & Legends was a huge success, most of the nights sold out and we did 4 private tours. We were able to give our FM Garden club a thank you tour for all the work that they do.
 - Anne Nelson and Kevin Toevs continue to offer quite a bit of administrative support. Angela Payne continues as the Database Coordinator
 - Many Front Desk volunteers open the museum daily.
 - Libby Chambers oversees the Front Desk Volunteers
 - Jake Humburg (volunteer) continues to update the website on an as needed basis.
- Nation Ford Chemical invited us to speak at their annual safety day. 5 of us attended.
- At this time, I want to call attention to the different teams that we have:
- Education team is led by Madison Martin and has 10 members.
 - The team has worked on getting the History Trunk program back into the schools. We went to several elementary schools last year, spoke at the principal's meeting and have plans to continue to get into the schools along with other small groups to share the program.
 - The 8th grade Trunk program is returning as well. The team spokesperson spoke at the principal's meeting and will begin going into the classroom in the next few months.
 - The team worked on the Strawberry Scavenger Hunt, led by Jen Morton, this was a partnership with the town of Fort Mill and a free event to the community.
 - Worked on videos of the Catawbas that we hope to have out soon.
 - Also worked on several trivia nights.
- Grants Processing Team is led by Rick Dammann and has 5 members:
 - We Received the SCPRT TAG grant for marketing, the York County Accommodations Tax grant for marketing and the Fort Mill Accommodations Tax grant that covered marketing and operations and some maintenance.
 - The team is also working with Ann Evans. The Springs family is digitizing the Springs Bulletins with Winthrop, and these will be available in the future. The museum will be provided a link so that we can link them to our site.
- History Research Team is led by Megan Brinton and has 22 members.
 - There are 18 topics under the History Topics tab on the website and these are being completed by the research team. Many members of that team have been instrumental in acquiring information that is valuable and a strong resource to the community.
 - Please make it a priority to go out to look at those topics. You will see Extreme Weather, Historic Homes, Cemeteries, people of Fort Mill and so much more. This tab is being updated continuously.
- Property & Facilities team was led by Steven Bivins but in the fall was taken over by James Shirey. This team has 10 members.
 - Yard clean up days were held and brought out several volunteers.
 - The breaker box was relabeled.

- Driveway hump was fixed, with the help of FM Accommodations Tax (Atax) funds, Southeastern Tree Service, & Coltharp Inc.
- New doorbell replaced.
- Dealt with our squirrel issue again.
- A tree limb went through the roof, and that is being dealt with.
- Installed a new heating unit.
- Continue to work with the Fort Mill Garden Club to beautify our grounds.
- Sponsorship Team is led by Ashley Taylor and I and has 6 members.
 - Our sponsors are listed on the website, newsletters & the eblasts. Please support our sponsors and let them know how much it is appreciated that we receive their funding,
- Volunteer Coordination Team has recently obtained a new leader, Krista Huff and has 10 members.
 - A Front Desk volunteer appreciation breakfast will be held in February.
 - The group plans to meet monthly on a regular basis until less meetings are needed.
 - Hope to plan an annual front desk training session in April.
 - Plan to have more volunteer gatherings to celebrate all the wonderful work our volunteers do.
 - Overall, we have 144 volunteers.
- Finance team is led by Ashley Taylor and has 2 members, soon to be 3 members.
- You can see the team minutes on the website and if you don't see them, please let me know and I can get them to you. We do have a few holes but are working to update them within the next few weeks. The board minutes are on the site along with other important organization documents.
- I completed my 2nd year of Marketing college; this is a 3-year certification.
- I completed my Winthrop nonprofit management certification class.

More items were accomplished but the above are the highlights of the year.

On a personal note, I want to thank everyone that supported me this year, with my mother's health issues and living in a hotel for 8 months. I'm very happy to say goodbye to 2022, it has been quite the challenge.

For 2023, we are planning several events. We are hoping to do 2-3 major event fundraisers, many small fundraisers, lunch and learns, plans to partner with other organizations, more tours and especially the Historic Homes tour.

I want to thank everyone for their membership, donations, volunteering their time, and so much more. We could not operate the museum without your dedication and passion for this town and its history. Please continue to view our website, eblasts, newsletter, and social media to see what's happening in 2023. We are looking forward to seeing you all more and having some fun in 2023.

Christia Humburg
 Executive Director
 1/26/23