

Pickens County Museum Foundation Board Minutes  
December 11, 2023

The Board met on Monday, Dec. 11; members present were Jeannie Gilstrap and Ginger Hicks in addition to Tabitha Johnson. Tabitha updated the board on the current financial statement, which shows a balance of \$15,321.07. Two paintings from the Juried Art Exhibit were sold, with the museum receiving 30% of the sale price. Tabitha continues to tabulate votes for the People's Choice Award from the Juried Art Exhibit.

Our monthly visitation for November was up significantly even though the museum was closed for November 22-25; November 2023's visitation was 435, November 2022's visitation was 230, and November 2021's visitation was 151.

The museum will be closed from December 16-January 10. This will allow Tabitha time to rotate some displays.

On December 5, Tabitha and Jeannie Gilstrap met with Drake Curry, CPA, who has agreed to work with the board on the museum's 501c3 status moving forward.

In old business, there was further discussion regarding the proposed Friends of the Museum group in terms of what we as a board have to offer to prospective members of the group, such as free advertising for businesses, possibly in printed material. Jeannie Gilstrap showed the board a Rotary brochure with a map that she designed as a model for the museum's idea for rack brochures at the SC Welcome Centers. This avenue for outreach needs more refinement in terms of financing and sources of advertisement before any decisions are made.

The museum parking lot received refurbishment.

In new business, our new volunteer donated 17 hours to catalog items.

Two donations of items were made to the museum in November. Several items belonging to Dr. Charles Valley, such as some of his professional certificates, were donated. A separate donation of an annotated photo album of people and places in the area belonging to George Tuttle of Sun-Tina Farms in Pickens County was given to the museum.

A mural artist, Cheyenne Marcus, was commissioned via a grant to paint a mural on the side of the museum as part of her *50 Murals in 50 States* initiative. Our mural is the representative for the state of South Carolina mural; it is the 8<sup>th</sup> mural she has painted. She plans to highlight our museum as she promotes her murals.

A potential board member, Margaret Finney, an artist who lives in Seneca, will hopefully be cleared to join us. There is no word on other applicants for board membership.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 8, at 4 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginger Hicks