

GROVE CITY HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

May 9, 2024

Agenda Item A: Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Andrews called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Proper public notice has been given.

Members in Attendance: CJ Andrews, Chair; Rob Stroup, Member; Linda Hall, Member; John Maxson, Member and Lisa Napier-Garcia, Member.

Members Absent: Janet Shailer and Chloe Dickson – Ms. Napier-Garcia made a motion to excuse both absences, seconded by Chair Andrews Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Others in Attendance: Kelly Sutherland, Steve Jackson and Russ Haskell, Alpha & Omega Design

Agenda Item B: Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item C: Approval of Minutes

Reviewed the February 8, 2024 minutes. Correction made to add Ms. Hall's name to the attendance list. Chair Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected; seconded by Ms. Hall. Vote Taken – Motion Approved.

Reviewed the March 14, 2024 minutes. Chair Andrews made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Vote Taken – Ms. Napier-Garcia abstained. Motion Approved.

Agenda Item D: New Items

1. **Finance Report** – Ms. Sutherland reported no changes at this time. An updated report will be provided at the June meeting.
2. **Proposed Expenditures** – Ms. Sutherland reported carrying over funds for the oral history project and four additional plaques.
3. **Museum Update** – Ms. Sutherland reported that Ms. Watkins and Ms. Traphagan have revamped some areas, making them more open. They are ready to roll with the PowerPoint presentations for the tv's. Mr. Stroup asked if the Model T was drivable and if we knew the value of the car. Ms. Sutherland responded that the Model T needs work to be able to run again, it leaks a lot of oil, and was last used a few years ago in the Arts in the Alley parade. It was built in 1912 and has had three owners.
4. **SWFCHS Update** – Mr. Maxson reported that the new website is up and running and distributed their annual brochure. He also stated that Ecofest was very successful, their volunteers were very engaging with the public. Pleasant View Middle School students will be coming to the Village to help with spring cleanup.

Reviewed Vice Chair Shailer's written report (attached).

5. **LTOB Update** – Ms. Napier-Garcia reported the passing of one of their founding members, Jane Mixer, age 92. She also reported on a great turnout for Ecofest. The next play in June is "Big Fish." The 2024/2025 season was announced. Lastly, LTOB is very appreciative of the City for their assistance in applying for a grant.

6. **Oral History Update** – Mr. Maxson reported on problems with uploading oral histories from a CD to the website. The CD would not transfer, but thumb drives have worked great. Mr. Haskell agreed to see if he is able to retrieve information from the CD and will then provide a proposal.
7. **America 250** – Ms. Sutherland reported that the City is developing a plan for the upcoming 2026 activities. Possibilities include a 1776 play for 2026, having a logo on the side of the American Nitrile building, a Resolution from City Council, etc. The City is taking the lead, but is partnering with the library, Heart of Grove City, Chamber, VCB and potentially business partners for a year-long event. Ms. Hall will be on the committee and will be the liaison between the City and the Commission

Agenda Item E: Open Discussion

Mr. Haskell suggested a 3-D walking through tour of the City's historic sites to have a visual record of locations, possibly starting with the Grant-Sawyer Home.

Next Meeting – June 13, 2024

The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 9:45 a.m.


Jennifer Uhrin, Secretary


CJ Andrews, Chair

Report from Janet Shailer

I interview Gloria Hartung at the Gantz Farmhouse for an oral history interview in April. Gloria did an excellent job of explaining how the farmhouse was saved from the wrecking ball and how the Gardens at Gantz was created. Russ Haskell was the videographer.

This interview, along with the Oral History I did with Steve Jackson on the Grant-Sawyer House a few months ago, plus the essay that Joan Eyerman wrote on the creation of Century Village, gives us a real background into what I call The Big Three for the Southwest Franklin County History Society.

Russ has a 3-D camera and has suggested we do a video at Gantz and at Grant-Sawyer using this technology. I think it is a great idea!

(Russ may attend the May 9 meeting).

Another topic – I was contacted by a member of the John Hoover Chapter of the DAR who wanted to search for info on John and his family. John Hoover is Grove City's only Revolutionary soldier and is buried on a hill on Gantz Rd. The DAR is going to have a big celebration of John's life in October. I arranged to meet this DAR member, Frances Morrow, at the museum and to have Leanne Watkins pull out files we have on both the John Hoover and William Seeds families. (John Hoover's youngest daughter married William Seeds). Leanne also let Frances look through the museum's copy of the Grove City Library's historic photo file. There are many Hoover family photos there thanks to the late Judy Hoover. Frances can get copies at the Grove City Library.

In addition to all that, we found an original seven-page essay John Hoover had written with a fountain pen on the history of the Revolutionary War! These pages need to be preserved. They have been folded for many years and need an expert who knows how to preserve them properly.

As an added surprise, Leanne happened to find discharge papers on two Grove City Civil War soldiers – one of the papers was buried in the bottom of a box! Leanne put it in a temporary frame to keep it from deteriorating but I would like to take both documents to Rebecca Sommer for her to re-frame with the proper glass. One doc needs some repairs. What a find! Do I have permission to take them over to be re-framed?

One last item – Leanne needs to make some delicate repairs to the “Grant dress” that is at least 150 years old. She is going to contact the Ohio State University’s textile department and ask for a consultation. We need advice on the best way to preserve it. She may also consult with the Ohio History Connection. More on this later.



The City of Grove City, Ohio

Richard L. "Ike" Stage, Mayor

March 29, 2024

Ohio Arts Council
30 E. Broad Street, 33rd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-3414

Re: 2025 Grant Opportunity

Dear OAC panel:

I am truly grateful for your 2024 grant supporting Little Theatre Off Broadway (LTOB), a Grove City community treasure. Providing decades of entertainment, the theatre is a vital component of our regionally recognized small town charm.

We appreciate your consideration to support LTOB's 2025 programming, including productions, youth programs and regular participation in Grove City's community events. LTOB's preparation and execution of their free outdoor performances on our Town Center Park stage are always well attended and appreciated events.

Thank you again, for your consideration.

Kind regards,

Richard L. "Ike" Stage
Mayor

cc: Lisa Napier-Garcia, President, Little Theatre Off Broadway



Southwest Franklin County Historical Society

Bringing together people interested in the history of the City of Grove City, Village of
Urbancrest,
and the townships of Jackson, Pleasant, Prairie and Franklin,
all located within Southwest Franklin County, Ohio.