

ONRA Minutes
Bi-monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 2011
Columbus Department of Health

Call to Order: President Dean Ringle called the meeting to order at 10:00AM. Secretary Pro-tem, Marian Vance led the Roll Call, and the following Board members were present: **Dean Ringle, Marian Vance, Mike Peppe, Elizabeth Reeb, Cyndie Gerken, Denna Johnson, Ed Kemper, Paul Seibel, Sylvia Miller, Jeff Sewert, Lynn Kartavich, Alan King, Nancy Campbell,** and ex officio member **Frank Quinn.** A quorum was present.

Secretary's Report: The minutes from the July 26th Board meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Cyndie Gerken and seconded by Paul Seibel. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Marian Vance presented the September 2011 Treasurer's Report, noting revenue and expenditure balances. After some discussion, a motion to approve the report was made by Denna Johnson and seconded by Sylvia Miller. Motion carried.

Coordinator's Report: ONRA Byway Coordinator Melanie Runkel submitted a written report which included an invoice requiring Board approval along with Grant Status and Membership Renewals.

Services Billing - An invoice for the Signage Project was presented, covering the period between July and August, and amounted to \$1,134.50. The 20% ONRA share is \$226.90. A motion to approve payment was made by Mike Peppe and seconded by Lynn Kartavich. Motion Carried. Treasurer Marian Vance signed the appropriate papers for payment.

Grant Status - ONRA received word from ODOT in August that we were awarded a National Scenic Byways grant for Mile Marker Restoration and/or Replacement. The total for the grant is \$45,000 with ONRA responsible for raising 20%. A grant request was submitted to the Della Selsor Fund in Springfield. We should know the result of this submittal by the end of the year. Money awarded will be used toward grant matching funds.

Membership Renewals - Membership renewal letters were sent out in August and September. Renewal letters for those that have not renewed from 2008-2010 will be sent out in October.

Committee Reports:

Marketing Committee – Marian Vance encouraged the Board to attend the Nov. 10th “Design Handbook Workshop and Promoting Heritage Sites” symposium at the former T&OC railroad station on West Broad Street in Columbus. This is a combined event

ONRA 9-27-11 Board Meeting (cont'd)

with Preservation Ohio, and is being funded in part by the Ohio Humanities Council, as well as by the Marketing Grant. The conference is free, but registration is needed.

The new ONRA Table Display was debuted today and it is believed it will be a valuable marketing tool/resource.

Frank Quinn brought up the on-line clothing store that could be a fund raiser for ONRA. Items of apparel will be embroidered with National Road emblems. The on-line store will be hosted by the Cerium Group, and Andrew Leil is their representative. There will be a 10% mark-up on the apparel to benefit ONRA. Mike Peppe moved to spend \$350 for set up costs and Elizabeth Reeb seconded. Motion carried.

Membership Committee – Membership Committee is still in need of a chairman, but there have been no volunteers. Dave Fisher was nominated to serve on the Board in the Miami County seat vacated by Mike Gebhart, with a term to expire January 31, 2012. A motion to appoint was made by Paul Seibel and seconded by Ed Kemper. Motion carried.

Endowment Fundraiser Committee - Cyndie Gerken reported on the success of the two fund raising dinners held at the Toll Road House restored by Jerry and Jackie Gross in Lewisburg. It is believed that the fundraiser will bring in a net total of over \$3,000 for the Glenn A. Harper Endowment Fund. The initial \$1,800 in ticket sales was sent to the Springfield Foundation so that the Endowment could be funded at the minimum of \$10,000 by the 2011 deadline of September 30th. Jeff Sewert thanked the Board for their help and support during the fundraiser.

Signage Committee – There are around 30 signs done, but not all of them have been installed. The seventeenth sign was Phoneton and it was dedicated on September 26th. Mike Peppe has been working on the Camp Chase sign unveiling, but no date has been set yet. On October 21st, two signs will be dedicated in Zanesville – the Y Bridge and Downtown Zanesville. Also the Western Gateway kiosk will soon be done and is to be installed at the first I-70 (Ohio) rest area east of Richmond, Indiana.

Mile Marker Committee – A committee will soon need to be established and fund raising will need to be undertaken before ONRA can access the \$45,000 Scenic Byways grant.

Old Business:

Marian Vance reported on the six-state National Road Alliance. The Alliance is in transition right now with the departure of Joe Jarzen as President, so there is no activity to report. Mike Peppe announced that he has made connections with the Language Department at The Ohio State University, and they will definitely be translating the *Traveler's Guide* into German. Once completed, the translation will be available on ONRA's web site. Translating into other languages is also being discussed.

ONRA 9-27-11 Board Meeting (cont'd)

New Business:

A meeting of the Ohio Scenic Byways representatives will be held October 5th in Columbus. Board members Mike Peppe, Marian Vance and Cyndie Gerken, as well as ONRA Byway Coordinator Melanie Runkel plan to be in attendance.

ONRA's Annual Meeting will be held on November 15th at the Spaghetti Warehouse in Columbus. Cost will be \$20.00, which will include dinner.

The Fall newsletter is almost ready for distribution, and will include an insert Reservation Form for the Annual Meeting.

Cyndie Gerken reported that the historic bridge that once carried the National Road from Wheeling Island to Bridgeport was recently demolished. Also, the Madonna of the Trail statue that had sit on the west edge of Springfield for 83 years has been moved to a location in downtown Springfield.

Frank Quinn suggested that ONRA might be a candidate for an Americorp fellow. ONRA will be checking into that for possible inclusion in the program next year.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Denna Johnson and seconded by Paul Seibel. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:45AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretaries Pro-tem Marian Vance and Cyndie Gerken for Secretary Mary Ellen Weingartner.