

Historic Havre de Grace Foundation

MINUTES

November 20, 2024

Ron Browning, President, called this special meeting shortly before his death. The meeting took place at 226 N. Union Avenue, Havre de Grace, MD. The purpose of the meeting was to outline how the Foundation should function in the immediate period following his death. Those present, were members Judy Plitt, Lilma Huntley, Kathy Keen, Diane Pearson and Joe Kiester, Treasurer. Carol Nemeth, Kathleen Lee, Roger Lee, Mark VanVerlin and John Hawkins were unable to attend. The Foundation had no Vice President or Secretary at the time, with Ron functioning as Secretary.

- I. The meeting began at 1pm.
- II. There was no approval of previous Minutes.
- III. There was no Treasurer's Report.
- IV. Ron's appointment of Acting Officers of the Board of Directors to serve until elections can be held:
 - A. Co-Presidents - Judy Plitt and Judge Emory Plitt.
 - B. Co-Vice Presidents - Mark VanVerlin and John Hawkins.
 - C. Secretary - Kathy Keen with the assistance of Lilma Huntley and Carol Nemeth.
 - D. Joe Kiester will continue as Treasurer with the assistance of Deborah Browning.
- V. Board members as named by Ron: Judy and Emory Plitt, Kathy Keen, Mark VanVerlin, John Hawkins, Joe Kiester, Diane and Rick Pearson, Carol Nemeth, Kathleen Lee, Roger Lee, Lilma Huntley, Ellen Eltgroth, Amy Rosenkrans, Richard and Deborah Stubing, Deborah Browning, Jeanette Browning, Gail Ruley, Jean Johnson, Carolyn Zinner, Helen Cayer, Randy Menard, William Reckard.
- VI. Ron's instructions about meetings and membership:
 - A. Notify membership about the reorganization of the Foundation (sent via email by Kathy Keen on November 22, 2024).
 - B. Suspend monthly meetings until March 2025.
 - C. Diane and Rick Pearson to organize and computerize Ron's hand-written list of members. Current membership to continue. Renewals, donations and new members accepted, but no notices will be sent out for now. Diane will process new membership applications and give checks/money to Joe Kiester for deposit in Foundation's account.

VII. Ron's wishes for the house and garden at 226 N. Union Ave:

A. House: Preserve as much as possible. No contents should be sold before Foundation funds are depleted. Items may be used for historical exhibits. B & O railroad dishes may be rented for nominal fee for display at the Aberdeen B & O Train Station, 404 W. Bel Air Ave., Aberdeen, MD 21001. Mary Rasa, Foundation member can facilitate this. House & garden may be used for community meetings at the discretion of the Board.

B. Garden: Involve Ellen Eltgroth, Jean Johnson, Diane Pearson, Gail Ruley and Mark VanVerlin in the care and management of the garden. Encourage use of the garden by the Havre de Grace Green Team and any interested garden clubs.

VIII. Taxes: Sheron Alexander, H&R Block, Harbor Shops, 1039 Pulaski Hwy, Havre de Grace MD 21079. Joe Kiester, assisted by Diane Pearson will summarize the accounts for 2024 and meet with Sheron to process.

IX. Ron's estate: Ron stated he will bequeath 226 N. Union Ave and designated contents of the property to the Historic Havre de Grace Foundation. He will also leave funds to support the property. Deborah and Jeanette Browning, Ron's sisters will own and manage the property pending settlement of the Will and formal acceptance of the donation by the membership of the Foundation.

Information contained in these Minutes obtained, in part, from Ron's handwritten notes, available upon request from Kathy Keen, kathleenkeen@comcast.net.

Submitted by Kathy Keen, Acting Secretary Historic Havre de Grace Foundation

