

Boren Property Advisory Council

January 14, 2022

DRAFT

Minutes

Call to Order 10:02 AM

Roll Call

Board Members

Charlsa Boren Bently, Chair Present

Pete McCaskill, Absent

Barbara Black, Present

Tom Sale, Present

WL Sanders, Absent

Staff Present

Jessica Martinez, Recreation Manager

Mary Ann Spaun, Russell Farm Supervisor

Pam O'Hearn, Russell Farm CSA

1. Approve the minutes from the October 15 2021 Meeting. (Staff Presenter: Mary Ann Spaun)

Motion was made by Tom Sale and seconded by Barbara Black to approve as presented.

Motion Passed: Unanimously Approved

2. Receive a report from the Art Advisory Committee. (Presenter: Tom Sale (Chairperson, Advisory Committee))

On November 30, \$925 was raised for Russell Farm through donations on Giving Tuesday. These funds will be donated to the Friends of the Farm.

We are continuing to work on our Red Chair art lectures. We conducted a joint program on December 10 with artist Emily Broussard and performer Shelly O'Neal. The total attendance was 25. The lecture was in conjunction with an exhibit of oil paintings completed this summer at a residency week at Russell Farm by Ms. Broussard.

Saturday, Dec 11, six of our regular Saturday sketch group set up in the Baker building with holiday art for sale during the Christmas on the Farm event.

We are continuing to plan for exhibits in the Baker building. In addition to lectures and residencies by artist and writers.

Our Saturday free sketch group is doing well with regular attendance.

The art advisory committee did not meet this quarter but has a meeting scheduled for January 11, 2022.

The agenda will be focusing on discussing streamlining the schedule, preparation for the lecture series, and ways to increase awareness of our adult class offerings.

This spring we are offering two master classes in printmaking and oil painting. In addition, a full schedule of both adult and children's class on Saturday afternoons.

Upcoming programs/events:

Upcoming art events include a February Red Chair Lecture by quilters, Barb and Ernie McCraw, and an April lecture by Tome Sale and Renata Lucia (These artists decided to postpone a scheduled January event due to recent Covid uptick.)

April 16 Autism Awareness Event

April 30 Art and Arbor Day

Summer art camps are on the calendar with 3 weeks taught by Jana's Art Pad and 1 week by Emily Broussard.

3. Receive a report from the Historical Committee. (Presenter: Barbara Black, Chairperson Historical Committee)

The Historical Advisory Committee met November 2, 2021. Members of the committee were in agreement the Russell Boren Home should be open for tours December 11, 2021 during Christmas on the Farm. Suggestions were made for docents to wear shields or masks while conducting tours. Guests entering the home would be required to wear masks provided by Russell Farm Art Center. Tours were given from 10:00 AM until 4:00PM by docents. Greeters were present to welcome guests to the Russell Boren Home. Forty-five guests signed the register.

It was a special day to have Kathi Hood as a guest. Kathi Hood and her mother had relatives that lived in Saline County Arkansas and remembered Glenn Families living in the area. Dr. Robert Morrow Russell and Martha Glenn Russell left Saline County Arkansas to settle in Texas. An article written by Charlsa Boren Bently "Martha's Story" about Martha Glenn Russell was published in the fall of 2021 Saline County History and Heritage Society Journal. They were so impressed by Martha Glenn Russell from the article they wanted to visit the farm, Martha bought.

Handicapped or mobility restricted guest were discussed at the November 16, 2021 meeting of the Historical Advisory Committee. Handicapped/Mobility restricted parking for the guests will be provided on the front row nearest the bridge and in the area behind the Hay Barn. Mary Ann Spaun, Supervisor of Russell Farm Art Center had signage made for the front gate parking indicating the available parking areas.

November 16, 2021 the Historical Advisory Committee met to discuss Nights of Lights and Christmas on the Farm. Members picked up flyers to be distributed at Old Town, churches,

hotels, Jellystone Park and senior living facilities. Members volunteered for various tasks needed for Nights of Lights and Christmas on the Farm. They gave tours of the Dairy Barn, shared information about Charlie Boren, drove the tractor needed to provide hay rides, helped decorate the farm and were greeters and docents. Mary Ann Spaun, Supervisor Russell Farm Art Center shared confirmation of vendors, food trucks, demonstrators and music for December events.

December 15, 2021 the Historical Advisory Committee met to set dates for meeting in 2022 and to provide a review of Nights of Lights and Christmas on the Farm. Suggestions were given for planning for 2022 holiday events. Mary Ann Spaun is to be commended for a successful holiday season at Russell Farm Art Center.

The Historical Advisory Committee is a team working together to preserve the history of Russell Farm Art Center. The members are grateful for the opportunity to serve.

4. **Receive a report regarding Russell Farm activities (Staff presenter: Mary Ann Spaun, Supervisor)**

AG Day – October 20, 2021: Russell Farm hosted AG day in partnership with BISD FFA (Future Farmers of America) and Johnson County 4H to promote educational opportunities for grades third through fifth. Stations included goats, sheep, cattle, pigs, chickens, and rabbits, which were led by the FFA students. FFA Students taught children how to take care of their animal, the benefits of agriculture to the food industry. Johnson County 4H and the Master Gardeners had a station promoting the My Plate Nutrition for balanced healthy food consumption. This day was a free field trip for schools and families to attend.

Fall Festival – October 22, 2021: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm Lots of fun for the entire family at the fall fest. Free event that included games, prizes, hay ride, mechanical bull, arts and crafts as well as live music! Family Far Out Camping – November 6, 2021: This year the farm hosted the family camp out with 91 campers attending. We offered archery lessons, horseback riding, wagon rides pulled by beautiful Percheron Draft Horses, Dutch Oven Society, and the Prairie Lands Water Conservation Trailer. A Master Naturalist headed up a nature hike with plant identifications. To close off the evening, the campers enjoyed a hot dog dinner, bingo with prizes, and a late-night movie in the Chesapeake building.

Open Art Studio – Every Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm: Tom Sale, Russell Farm Art Council Chair, sets up a still life every week for artist of all skill levels to come out and enjoy sketching and painting together.

Art classes for youth – October through December 2021, the first and second Saturday youth art classes are offered for \$25 from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm. All skill levels were welcomed and supplies were included. Winter Art Camp (ages 6-12) was offered December 28– 31, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The \$100 fee included all supplies. An art show was included on the last day.

Adult art classes – The last Saturday of the month adult art classes were taught by Emily Broussard. Themes included focal point, scratchboard drawings, and large-scale drawings. The class met 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm with a cost of \$30. The fee included all supplies. There was also a Print Making Workshop from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The cost was \$100 and included all supplies.

Fall and Winter Art Reception Julia Schloss: Specialized in sculptures using reclaimed materials
Tiny Irizarry: Specialized in 3D Paintings
Red Chair Lecture: September 8, 2021: Michelle O'Michael – Metal Sculpture; November 18, 2021: Becky Ramotowski and Nancy Smith – Alternative Photography; December 10, 2021: Emily Broussard Oil Painting

Nights of Lights – Various displays of Christmas Yard Art and arches of lights throughout a 4 acre area for families to come out, enjoy the live music, and sip hot cocoa by the open fire! This was available for two weekends December 4 & 5 and 10 and 11 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Santa's Breakfast – December 4, 7:00 am to 10:00 am: Russell Farm hosted this event with the BRICK. Tickets were sold for a pancake breakfast, activities, and a picture with Santa Claus!

Christmas on the Farm – December 11, 2021 10:00 am to 4:00 pm: Our annual Christmas event is free for the whole family. Activities included train rides, hayrides, a tour of the Russell Boren Historical Home, and various arts and crafts for children to make. We also had food vendors and live music throughout the day.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair Charlsa Boren Bentley adjourned the meeting at 11:20 AM.

Pamela O'Hearn – Recording Secretary