

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas  
**French Legation Museum Committee**  
Minutes – January 13, 2016

**Members Present:** Karen Thompson (Chair), Janie Babcock (Vice Chair), Sherry Causey (Secretary), Gaylon Finklea Hecker, Edie Tyler, Sharon Wander, Rachel Bryson, Dusky Waters, Judy Day, Mariann Laughlin (via Skype), Janis Keen

**Excused Absence:** Kay Valenta (Treasurer), Tammy Beveridge, Kathy Howell, Glenda Black

**Guests:** Alice Nowotny (Treasurer General), Martha Withers (FLM Director), Sam Myers (Accountant)

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm and held in the DRT Headquarters Meeting Room. Pledges to the American and Texas flags were led by Karen Thompson. A quorum was declared.

**Minutes:** November 11, 2015, FLMC meeting minutes were previously distributed and amended. Minutes were accepted as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Kay Valenta was absent, but provided the following figures via email for the period ended December 31 2015:

DRT FL Museum (4460)	\$ 63,535.98
DRT FL Memorial (0031)	2,171.46
DRT FL Grants/Collections (0665)	13,178.00
DRT FL Baretta Kitchen Fund (2047)	<u>13,190.07</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 92,075.51</b>

\*The French Legation Museum is the beneficiary of a fund held at the Austin Community Foundation. The Fund Balance as of January 12, 2016, is unavailable. (Principal: \$5,000).

**Accountant:** Sam Myers went over the financial reports with a brief discussion following. The Point of Sales computer, which is up and running now, crashed in December. Approximately three weeks worth of sales figures have, yet, to be transferred to the financial statements. An additional \$82,000 in income is needed to meet this years budget.

**Chairman's Report:** Previously submitted via email. Chair Karen Thompson reported that she accepted Teresa Johnson's resignation with our gratitude for services rendered. Karen received the new 175<sup>th</sup> FLM Anniversary Pins to be worn on the DRT ribbon. She distributed a pin to each attending FLMC member. The first **French Connection** newsletter was completed, with Jenny Phillips' and other FLM staff's assistance, and distributed to DRT members via email. Karen provided attending FLMC members with a hard copy.

**Grants Committee:** Mariann Laughlin submitted her report via email. A grant request for \$68,000 was submitted to the Summerlee Foundation in January. Eight other possible grant sources have been identified, some whose grants may cover operating expenses. Possible sources for a grant to publish the children's FLM historical squirrel book will be explored. Mariann will bring the display jewelry to Sharon Wander, so she might get bids on production from a third company.

**Flag Committee:** Edie Tyler submitted her report via email. She will compose a draft order form, with Judy Day's assistance, for flag purchase. Edie plans to write an article for the **French Connection**

newsletter about the sale of FLM flags.

**Grounds Committee:** Judy Day/Gaylon Finklea Hecker submitted a grounds report via email. Judy will take on another, more suited to her expertise, FLMC position. Dusky Waters is considering heading the Grounds Committee. Roy Mann, famed landscape architect and Gaylon's dear friend, will draft a landscape plan for FLM pro bono, once he determines the parameters within which he is to work. Sharon Wander will provide Karen with the name of a sculptor, who volunteered to help with a landscape plan. Edie has a copy of Pam Lynn's grounds information and will pass that along to Karen. Texas Disposal Services (Stacy Schmidt) will be contacted about donating free hedges and trees. Rachel has the business card of a gentleman, who attended the November 13, 2015, Angers Day event and indicated he might donate money for grounds improvement. She will give the card to Karen. Steve Saunders and team, along with other FLMC members and staff, preformed major tree trimming and grounds cleaning on January 9.

**Gift Store Committee:** Sharon Wander has no current data on the gift store income, as the Point of Sales computer crashed, during December. Sharon will order new merchandise, as necessary. Karen will instruct the FLM staff to have on-line sales available by February 1.

**175<sup>th</sup> FLM Anniversary Committee:** Rachel Bryson provided her report at the meeting. The March 5, 2016, FLM 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be reconsidered, as funds are unavailable to accomplish a costly gala event. The children's FLM historical squirrel book will debut March 5. An exhibition pig roast will take place.

**Texas-French Market Committee:** Complete figures are unavailable, at this time.

**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Committee:** Gaylon Finklea Hecter sent her report via email. Karen is, currently, reviewing Gaylon's wording for the children's book, featuring the blond FLM squirrels and encompassing Legation history. Sherry will double check historical accuracy of the material covered. Gaylon secured lovely FLM bridal pictures to use in the book.

**Director's Report:** Martha Withers reported the Master Interpretive Plan (MIP) representatives arrived at FLM on Friday. They are gathering information and touring the site. The first MIP stakeholders meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14, 2016, 10:00 am, at FLM. Committee members are encouraged to attend. The MIP scope of work will be sent to all FLMC members. Martha is working on three FLM budgets, which President General Dr. Betty Edwards requested by January 15, 2016. The Festival of Carols event was canceled due to rain, but may be rescheduled this spring.

**Old Business:** Janie Babcock reported the Austin History Center Eberly Luncheon, scheduled for January 29, 2016, at 11:00 am, is held annually at the Driskill Hotel. A table for ten people was reserved for FLMC. In addition, FLM may have a short presentation spot on the agenda. FLMC members are needed to roll and tie scrolls for placement at each attendee's seat. Rachel will secure the tie material and ensure FLM has heavy duty paper to print the scrolls. The event theme is silver and white. Tickets cost \$125.00. Dress is nice/business/church. FLMC members should wear name tags.

**New Business:** Gaylon donated a \$25.00 check, designated for the printing/publishing of the children's FLM historical squirrel book.

Janie brought the light-blue-light-weight-long-sleeve-button-down shirts, which FLMC members purchased to wear at the 175<sup>th</sup> FLM Anniversary Celebrations. X-large shirts are still outstanding.

Karen Thompson and others attended the funeral of Mexican Senator Jesus Ramon, a staunch DRT supporter. Our sincere sympathies go out to his family, country and friends for this great loss.

FLMC members will compose articles and provide pictures for the upcoming **French Connection** newsletter.

A budget discussion ensued. As FLM is restricted **by law** on how money collected/donated on FLM grounds is used, no additional means of securing operating expenses was determined. DRT is legally responsible for that portion of the FLM budget.

A called meeting may be necessary to complete plans for the March 5 event and to roll and tie scrolls.

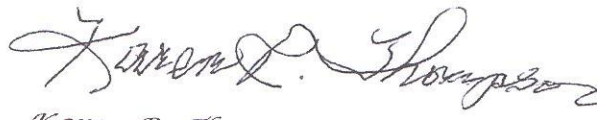
The next regular FLMC meeting will be February 10, 2016, 1:00 pm, at DRT Headquarters.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sherry Causey  
Recording Secretary



Karen Thompson  
Chairman