

Hill Country Hands-On Museum: Directors' Meeting, Jan. 30th, 2008

Attending: Laura Eliel, Larry McCormick, Shand Norfleet, Deena Berg (taking notes)

1. 501 C3 status.

An update was given regarding the non-profit paperwork. Larry McCormick and another board member contributed \$90.00, so there will now be \$750.00+ in the bank to pay the filing costs. Laura will talk to Art about finishing and then submitting the paperwork with a check.

Deena needs to send Art some letterhead so he can send receipts to donors. Deena needs the official 501 C3 status verbiage to put at the bottom of the letterhead and website.

2. Poppy Fest preparations.

Laura passed out a list of basket ideas with contacts for raffling at the Red Poppy Festival. Shand will take over some of the work from Kelly, and Laura will take on the remaining baskets. Volunteers are needed for running the booth. Deena reviewed the Oriental Trading company online and emailed a list of items that might be purchased to sell, and will order a catalog. Shand will contact Kelly about the science materials.

3. Idea for Revenue Stream

Larry inspired us to think about possible revenue streams during and after the start up of the museum, and mentioned that Nancy, his wife, works with the Assistance League thrift shop. The idea was tossed around about setting up a "Hill County Kidcycle" entity, perhaps in conjunction with the Georgetown Project, to collect and re-sell children's items, and possibly sell discounted remainder merchandise from other stores (Toys R Us?).

4. Promotion

Deena put up the new website under the new domain name www.hillcountryhandsonmuseum.org. Meetings and events are posted on the home page. Labels with the new URL will be made to update the existing flyers (Laura will supply Deena with labels). The power point was looked at, and needs minor tweaking, but it is otherwise ready for presentation by Margarite. Margarite needs to send Deena a calendar for presentations to post on the website. A press release also needs to be created for release in March.

5. Transportation Museum possibility

Laura has spoken to Tom Yantis and Kathy (?) about the possibility of joining forces between the two museums. She will pursue this further. Apparently the transportation museum has stalled because TXDOT is no longer able to provide any funding. She is also still investigating the option of purchasing the old Albertson's building and proposing sharing the space with the transportation museum.

6. Joining other Forces

Larry suggested that the various arts and cultural groups in Georgetown form a united front to help get more support from the City and County. This was approved and Laura will attend any meetings as representative of HCHM. Also, it was discussed that getting support is more likely with a specific plan and proposal to get matching funds. Also, contact should be made with Mike Martin at the Georgetown Project to see what overlap there might be.

7. Next Meetings.

The next meetings will take place on Feb. 10 and Feb. 24 at the Hill Country Bookstore at 10 am.

Laura will invite Sue Sheffman and Nancy McCormick to come to the next meeting to discuss their experiences and advise on fund raising.