

Jackson County Historical & Genealogical Society
Reorganization Meeting
29 April 2008 – 6 PM
Pascagoula City Library

The reorganization meeting of the Jackson County Historical & Genealogical Societies was called to order by President Tommy Wixon with approximately 38 members present (list of attendees is attached).

President Wixon introduced the slate of officers and committee chairman, as follow:

President	Tommy Wixon
President Elect	Barry McIlwain
VP Old Spanish Fort	Kevin Hall
VP Genealogy	Doug Coulter
Recording Secretary	Liz Ford
Corresponding Secretary	Rene Hague
Treasurer	Linda Grimes
Friends & Founders	Cindy Krebs
Genealogy	Betty Rodgers
By Laws	Cap Ford
Membership	Michele Lee
Historian	Else Martin, Jay Higginbotham
Journal Editors	Else Martin & Joanne Anderson
Membership List (compile & maintain)	Vacant – need volunteer
Public Relations	Joanne Anderson
Fundraising	Callie Randall
Birding & Nature	Shelby Brunt & Don McKee
Grant Coordinator	Lee Anne Bosarge, Anne Moore, Betty Bensey, Barbara Dumas
Liaison City Council	Betty Bensey
Liaison Supervisors	Joanne Anderson
Moss Point Representative	Kaye Doyle
Gautier Representative	Jim LeBatard, Jack Womack, Jim Steadman
Ocean Springs Representative	Ray Bellande, Adele Anderson
Pascagoula Representative	Marcia Baumhauer
East Jackson County	Betty Rodgers
West Jackson County	Vacant – need volunteer
Central Jackson County	Cap Ford
Program Chairmen	Kathie Keene, Libby Watson

Anyone interested in a specific area is asked to volunteer, and if anyone has an idea or know of another group to be represented, please contact Tommy Wixon.

Else Martin said she asked Roger Hamilton to head up Military History in Jackson County.

President Wixon announced the following have agreed to serve on the Advisory Board:

Shelby Brunt
Kathie Keene
Steve Demetropolis
Susan McCormick
Alice Lachaussee
Carl Megehee
Lin Jacobsen
Marye Boland
Cecile Stevens
Adele Anderson
Alice Duckett
Francis Frederic
Bill Nelson
Ruth Spillers
Walter Lewis
Sherry Owens
Lyn Brown
Carol Messer
Lynn Ellis
Tom Van Antwerp
Don McKee
Melanie Moore
John Banahan
Anne Pickett

Tommy Wixon said he may have to appoint a group to determine dues. Else Martin said it costs 10 to 12 dollars to print each journal, and postage is approximately 3 dollars each. She suggested leaving the 2008 dues as is, and revisit it later.

Else said the next journal will be 100 pages. Joanne Anderson said a new layout was going to be used which would incorporate more material in less space.

Tommy Wixon then suggested the dues be something for the Treasurer to look at. Linda Grimes, Treasurer, said anyone who has paid already to either group will be paid up in membership for the year. It was decided Doug and Linda will get together and come up with a dues structure.

Else Martin moved, and Doug Coulter seconded that the dues remain \$25.00 for the year for the joint society with evaluation by the Treasurer. If the Journal is to be mailed, the dues will remain at \$28.00.

OLD BUSINESS:

A discussion, led by President Wixon, was held regarding the Conservator hired by the Board of Supervisors following the storm. Some of the items have not been returned. Cap Ford was asked to look into it, and write a letter. The Conservator has a check list of items that were in inventory. Joanne Anderson will try to locate them and the status. Betty Rodgers said some were at the Fairgrounds in the one of the buildings.

Cemetery Book:

Money is set aside for the cemetery book which is now being indexed.

- have a map for each township
 - getting a GPS number assigned to each cemetery
 - Kathie Keene asked if they have church information
 - Else is considering blank sheets for family trees in each book
 - sponsorships were briefly discussed
 - also suggested was selling x number of books to each funeral home and they could distribute them as complimentary copies
 - Else has a great price from a publishing company
 - suggested putting the info on a DVD – need a back up of the book
- Else will report on the progress/status at the next meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

Genealogy Class:

- Else Martine, Doug Coulter & Sherry Owens will work up a beginning genealogy class and report at the next meeting.
- Joann Anderson said Jim Steadman had done a workshop on family history and will probably volunteer to do one here.

Office/Storage Space:

- Permanent office space is needed, but in the meantime, Doug & his son will donate the upstairs of a building on Pascagoula Street for storage.

Welcome Center:

- A welcome center manned by volunteers with the genealogy records was mentioned as a goal. Maybe the TICO site??

Web Site:

- Doug Coulter asked about a web site.
- Linda Grimes volunteered her daughter, and Rene Hague volunteered her son to work with Joanne Anderson who will offer advice.

County History:

- James Henry LeBatard asked if anyone had a copy of the county history book available, he would like to purchase one
- The county history book needs to be updated & reprinted

LaPoint Krebs House:

Kevin Hall gave an update on the status of the Fort & the Museum

- The city and the county have entered into an intra local agreement whereas the city is now handling the maintenance and operation of the complex
- Compton Engineering is working on the specs and waiting on FEMA
- The Fort Building has a \$250,000 grant, plus insurance money & FEMA funds
- The US Corps of Engineers have proposed to stabilize the bluff using rip raf.
- Else asked if the museum could be expanded to include a meeting room

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Joann Anderson has digitalized a lot of photographs which she will share with the Library
- Rene Hague suggested maybe we needed a 'Hurricane Committee' - Tommy volunteered Karen & Robert to work on it
- Else is also working on a book of marriages in Jackson County
- School records are also important
- Tommy emphasized that a publication committee is a necessity
- Rev LeBatard inquired about the location of the 'courthouse mural' and Josie Gautier's Pearl Elders painting, which was allegedly given to Singing River Mail when it first opened for business.
- Liz gave a brief review of the saga of the Singing River Mural and Linda Grimes suggested to ask the paper to run an article about the missing Pearl Elders painting
- The whereabouts of the Frederic de St Ferol Legion of Honor medal was also questioned.
- The Francis Clifford surveys are at Archives and Lois Castligola is indexing them.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

It was decided to meet on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6 PM at the Library, and the Genealogical workshops would be on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 2 PM.

Treasurer Linda Grimes announced \$353.00 was collected in dues.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM. The next meetings will be on Saturday the 17th of May at 2PM, and on Tuesday the 27th of May at 6PM.

Liz Ford,
Recording Secretary

**1st Combined Meeting of the Jackson County Historical & Genealogy
Society
29 April 2008 – Pascagoula City Library**

Attendees:

1. **Peggy Saliba**
2. **Barry McIlwain**
3. **Kaye Doyle**
4. **Evelyn Draughan**
5. **Walter Mansfield**
6. **Kevin Hall**
7. **Jack Lander**
8. **Day Lander**
9. **Roger Hansen**
10. **Iva McKey**
11. **Mr McKey**
12. **David McKey**
13. **Julius Redmond**
14. **George Sholl**
15. **Ronald Harper**
16. **Marcia Baumhauer**
17. **Kathie Keene**
18. **Ovide Davis**
19. **J M 'Cap' Ford**
20. **Leann Bosarge**
21. **Jack Womack**
22. **Rev James Henry LeBatard**

23. Callie Randle
24. Karen Cauley
25. Rodney Oliver
26. Darin de Crespin
27. Pat Haynes
28. Sherry Owens
29. Melanie Moore
30. Joanne Anderson
31. Betty Rodgers
32. Linda Grimes
33. Rene Hague
34. Else Martin
35. Doug Coulter
36. Tommy Wixon
37. Liz Ford
38. Erline Tait