

**Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial
Commission Meeting**
April 27, 2011
MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History
Little Rock, Arkansas

Members Present

Dr. Jamie Brandon – Governor Appointee
Mark Christ – Designee, Department of Arkansas Heritage
Richard Davies – Director, Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism
Tommy Dupree – Jacksonville, Governor Appointee
Tom Ezell – President, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Bill Gatewood – Director, Old State House Museum
Mark Kalkbrenner – Commander, Arkansas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Dr. George Lankford – Batesville, Senate Pro Tem Designee
Cathie Matthews - Department of Arkansas Heritage Director
Archie Moore – Governor Appointee
Dr. Wendy Richter – Director, Arkansas History Commission
John C. Scott – Superintendent, Pea Ridge National Military Park

Members Absent

Carolyn Ashcraft – Director, Arkansas State Library
Ernest Cunningham – Governor Appointee
Keith Emis – House Speaker Designee
W. Danny Honnoll – President, Arkansas Civil War Heritage Trails Foundation
DeeLois Lawrence – President, Arkansas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy
Ellen M. Lewis – Senate Pro Tem Designee
Timothy G. Nutt – Arkansas Historical Association
DuShun Scarbrough – Director, Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission
(representative present)

Visitors

Frances McSwain – AHPP Director
Darcy Baskin – ACWSC Administrative Analyst
Gabrielle Sloan – representing DuShun Scarbrough, Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr.
Commission
Jake Sandlin – Arkansas Democrat Gazette
Jack E. Hill – TeleVision for Arkansas

Chairman Tommy Dupree called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m. He introduced new commission member Tom Ezell representing the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. Tommy also introduced Gabrielle Sloan representing DuShun Scarbrough of the Arkansas Martin Luther King, Jr. Commission. Tommy then asked each visitor to stand and state their name and affiliation.

Tommy then called for the approval of the minutes from the January 26, 2011, ACWSC meeting. George Lankford moved for acceptance of the minutes from the January 26, 2011, commission meeting and Mark Kalkbrenner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Report on Heritage Trail Program

Richard Davies provided an overview of where we are with signage. Richard noted that Dan Flowers of AHTD wants his signing department to have a strategy in place about how to go about placing these signs. There are several considerations they want to examine such as what locations – such as intersections – should be used for placing the signs? What is the approval process for creating a new sign? How often will they place signs along the routes? And setting up a process for sending them to the regional staff to get them erected.

Richard indicated that the AHTD has been very busy lately and this might be slowing the process for placing the signs.

Tommy Dupree reminded the Commission of the need for this type of signage as there are currently limited directions for the Heritage Trail Program. Richard noted that our temporary solution for directing users of the Heritage Trails Program is to refer them to the website.

Richard also noted the recent storms in Arkansas and added that this may be slowing the signing process down as the AHTD focuses on weather-related damage.

Report on Logo Use Requests and Events

Darcy Baskin reported on the activities of the Sanctioning Task Force. Darcy noted that the task force received many requests including several events associated with the Arkansas Archeology Month in March and the Arkansas Heritage Month this May.

All Civil War-related events hosted by agencies of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, State Parks, the National Parks System, and all ACWSC Grant Recipients are automatically sanctioned and may use the logo to promote their program.

Logo use request applications received from organizations not included in the list above have their application sent to the Sanctioning Task Force for review.

Darcy provided highlights on some of the programs the task force has approved since the last meeting in January:

- 1) Historical motor coach tours in Central Arkansas focused on Civil War heritage.
- 2) The “Crawford County History & Heritage Days,” which involves community members bringing in Civil War era photos, letters and family stories to be documented and recorded at the Van Buren Library.
- 3) A Civil War-themed poetry contest hosted by the Poet’s Roundtable of Arkansas.
- 4) A two-act stage play written by Phillip H. McMath titled “The Hanging of David O. Dodd.”
- 5) A Civil War-related teacher workshop at Lakeport Plantation, organized by ASU.
- 6) An exhibit in South Sebastian County titled “Struggle & Strife: South Sebastian County Families in the Civil War Era.”
- 7) The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies has developed a website titled “A Nation Divided: Arkansas and the Civil War.” This website showcases the Civil War-related collections and materials held by The Butler Center. The site will go live May 1st and will serve as an excellent research aid for those interested in the Civil War in Arkansas.

All events are posted to the ACWSC website here:
www.arkansascivilwar150.com/events.

Report on Grant Committee

Darcy Baskin provided a report on Round 2 of the grants program.

The second round of grant applications closed on February 18. The Commission received eight applications (requesting varying amounts from \$1,000 to \$2,000) in categories such as film, research, teacher workshops, summer theatre camp, and local festivals. A staff review of the grants took place first – and these recommendations were sent on to the Grants Review Committee.

The Grants Review Committee funded the following projects:

- 1) **Title:** Crawford County Planning and Research Grant
Applicant: Crawford County Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee;
Sheila Bell, Chairman
Area Benefiting: Van Buren, Crawford County
Amount Requested: \$1,025
Match: Cash: \$742.50 (Van Buren A&P Commission)
In-kind: \$1,000 (Volunteers throughout the County)

Project Summary: “Research and document Civil War events in Crawford County which pertain to planned public events in 2011-2012. Use research to finalize plans, scripts, exhibits for Van Buren. Develop media campaign to advertise events. Meet with citizens to promote interest and participation in local historical events.”

- 2) **Title:** Teacher workshop: “Teaching Teachers about the Civil War Era.”
Applicant: Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site; Kimble Talley, Education Specialist
Area Benefiting: Arkansas teachers
Amount Requested: \$2,000
Match: Cash: \$2,375 (National Park Service PMIS)
In-kind: \$350 (Mark Christ and Jefferson National Park Association)

Project Summary: “The National Park Service will offer a two-day teacher in-service workshop, ‘Teaching Teachers about the Civil War Era.’ The two day workshop will immerse participants in the Civil War by using multiple perspectives and effective instructional strategies.”

- 3) **Title:** Documentary “From Slavery to an Eagle on His Button”
Applicant: TeleVision for Arkansas; Jack E. Hill, Reporter/Producer
Area Benefiting: Arkansas, southern Missouri, Oklahoma, west Tennessee, Mississippi
Amount Requested: \$2,000
Match: Cash: \$1,000 (TeleVision for Arkansas, applicant’s own funds)
In-kind: \$9,000 (archives, TeleVision for Arkansas)

Project Summary: “We propose an hour documentary, ‘From Slavery to an Eagle on His Button’ to air in conjunction with the Civil War’s Sesquicentennial. The program will air on AETN and on PBS stations in neighboring states.

“This grant will fund our first original taping: weapons demonstrations by re-enactors for the 11th Regiment, United States Colored Troops, at the Fort Smith National Historic Site where the original regiment was recruited in 1863.

“Such material allows us to break up our hour-long narrative of the historical account of Arkansas slavery and black troops with a present-day thread.

One of the re-enactors, for example, is related to Amos Adams, who served in the 11th at Fort Smith during the war. Being able to connect the part to the present in this way will make our documentary more engaging.”

- 4) **Title:** The Arts & Science Center Summer Theatre Camp
Applicant: The Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas; Janelle Powell, Executive Director
Area Benefiting: Pine Bluff/Jefferson County/Southeast Arkansas
Amount Requested: \$1,700
Match: Cash: \$1,650 (Arts & Science Center)
In-kind: \$200 (Pine Bluff Commercial newspaper)

Project Summary: “The Arts & Science Center has long had a successful summer theatre camp. Because this year’s camp will be at the beginning of the country’s celebration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the Center will incorporate learning about the history of the Civil War into its Theatre Camp (June 13-24, 2011) as well as the public performances to

be held at the end of the camp on Saturday, June 25. Campers will research, create and perform monologues and skits connected with the prime movers behind the Emancipation Proclamation such as Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of State William Seward, abolitionists, slaves and free blacks upon hearing of the proclamation. All parents, students and residents of southeast Arkansas will be invited to a community-wide performance at the conclusion of the two-week camp at *Celebrate Juneteenth* set for 1-4 p.m. Saturday, June 25. The day will include two performances: One by the students and then also a performance by nationally known and awarded storyteller Cheryl Collins, who also is the camp director. Ms. Collins will perform in a one-woman storytelling experience as an African-American slave woman on hearing the news of the Emancipation Proclamation. The Center is seeking funding to pay part of the salary for Ms. Collins as director of the two-week Theatre Camp, to pay artist fees for Ms. Collins' one-woman storytelling Saturday performance and to purchase ad(s) to promote the Saturday performances."

- 5) **Title:** Short documentary: "Brother Against Brother, The Arkansas Peace Society and the Yellar Rag Boys."
Applicant: Angela VanZandt (Dawson Educational Co-op) and Arkansas Department of Education
Area Benefiting: State of Arkansas (Pulaski County)
Amount Requested: \$2,000
Match: Cash: \$500 (Arkansas Department of Education)
In-kind: \$500 (Arkansas Department of Education/Dawson Educational Co-op)

Project Summary: "Short Documentary Film, approximately 7-10 minutes in length, documenting the Arkansas Peace Project, one of the holes in history. 'Brother Against Brother, The Arkansas Peace Society and the Yellar Rag Boys.'"

- 6) **Title:** Chalk Bluff Civil War Re-enactment
Applicant: Clay County Government, Judge Gary Howell
Area Benefiting: Clay, Green, Randolph, Craighead counties in Arkansas, western Tennessee, southern Missouri, southern Illinois and Kentucky
Amount Requested: \$2,000
Match: Cash: \$950 (Clay County Quorum Court – general funds)
In-kind: \$1,000 (Volunteer hours..., fertilizer for the re-enactment site)

Project Summary: "Clay County has entertained the 'Battle of Chalk Bluff' since 2005 on the first weekend of May (May 1). We were unable to have the battle in 2009 or 2010. After each re-enactment the actors asked if they could come back next year because they were actually fighting on an 'actual' battle site. The actors set up their campsites and give demonstrations of the 'living history' during battle times. The crowds of people have increased in size each year of the re-enactment. We receive positive comments about the event. The observers always inquire if there will be another time next year. We always seem to draw new visitors each year. Chalk Bluff was a major battle involving Arkansas.

"Clay County provides a meal for the re-enactors on Saturday night and concessions during both days. The County has in previous years held fund raisers to purchase the powder for the

infantry/cavalry and loose black powder for the artillery. The County was unable to have a fund raiser this year.”

- 7) **Title:** Randolph County Founders Day Celebration - Civil War Themed Activities
Applicant: Fiver Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.; Bill Carroll
Area Benefiting: Pocahontas, Randolph County and surrounding area
Amount Requested: \$1,000
Match: Cash: \$2,175 (Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc.)
In-kind: \$500 (Five Rivers Historic Preservation, City of Pocahontas, community volunteers)

Project Summary: “Five Rivers Historic Preservation, Inc. (a 501 c3 organization) sponsors the annual Randolph County Founders Day Celebration – a two day event held the first full weekend of May – In cooperation with the City of Pocahontas and Randolph County. While we plan to schedule Civil War themed events during the celebration each of the next five years, the Civil War will be the primary theme for the 2011 celebration May 6 – 7.

“Activities include re-enactments, speeches, parades, street fights, a dinner for re-enactors, demonstrations of era crafts, speakers, decorations, cannon firing, and a street dance.”

- 8) **Title:** “Seasonal Civil War Articles”
Applicant: Glen Schwarz, Writer/Publisher
Area Benefiting: Central Arkansas
Amount Requested: \$2,000
Match: Cash: \$2,000 (from private donors/ad sponsors)
In-kind: \$2,000 (from author’s historical knowledge, research and writing ability. Graphics artist for illustrations, webmaster to put online.)

Project Summary: “The key events of 1861 in Arkansas will be covered and published in the Emerald City of the South alternative newspaper. The paper has a print run of 15,000 and a dedicated distribution system which consistently circulates about 90% of the newspapers distributed.

The content of the paper is an eclectic mix of History, Politics, Science, home improvement and health subjects. It is basically a writer’s rag, with all subjects welcome so long as the writing is good. Seasonal Civil War articles will fit well into the content of this newspaper, and will give advance notice to the public when reenactments or memorials occur.

In regards the American Civil War, it is important to relate events in Arkansas in the context of the larger picture of the rebellion. For example, the taking of the Federal arsenals at Little Rock and Fort Smith were mundane affairs, with the Federal Forces abandoning both places as untenable. However the exact same events at Fort Sumter in South Carolina, where the Federal forces were ordered to hold, led to the outbreak of war.

Also important to the Arkansas reader is the fact that the state did not secede until the outbreak of hostilities, and that it took two secession conventions to do the deed.”

Darcy noted that the Commission funded \$13,725 in grant requests for Round 2. She reminded the Commission that we will not hold another grant round until we receive more funding.

George Lankford inquired about the Arkansas Department of Education's (ADE) short film. Specifically, he wanted to know how organizations would find out about it and be able to access it. Discussion followed about ADE's notices for films. Mark Christ noted that we would make an announcement when the film is completed. Continuing discussion on the short film involved information about the "Yellar Rag Boys."

Jamie Brandon asked about the Emerald City of the South alternative newspaper and its distribution. Mark provided a brief overview of the newspaper. He noted that part of the committee's rationale is to be inclusive and reach out to groups that may not otherwise hear about the Civil War.

Update on Historical Marker Program

Mark Christ gave an update on the Historical Marker Program. He noted that there are 15 markers in place. The most recent marker was dedicated last Saturday near Fort Smith National Historic Site.

Markers currently in fabrication include:

-Hicks' Station – Lonoke

Markers approved but waiting on funds from sponsoring organizations include:

-Berryville in the Civil War – Berryville

-Civil War Healing – Eureka Springs

-Prairie Grove Battlefield State Park (two-sided)

These markers will be sent to the fabricator as soon as we receive the checks from the sponsoring organizations.

Mark reminded the Commission that while we did not receive any funding from the General Assembly the Historical Marker program is still funded through grants from Preserve America and NCRC. We have not yet utilized the funds provided by NCRC so we still have plenty of funds to draw from in order to place more historical markers. Mark estimates that we have enough funding to place forty more markers. Mark urged commission members to stress the availability of funding for historical markers when they are speaking to the public about the programs of the ACWSC.

Richard Davies requested for Mark to send out a press release stating that the Historical Markers program still has funding.

Mark noted we have 15 counties with markers in place and he reminded the Commission to keep promoting the program so we can reach our goal of a marker in each of Arkansas's 75 counties.

Update on Traveling Exhibit

Mark Christ updated the Commission on the status of the Traveling Exhibit. The exhibit is currently in the design phase with plans to open the exhibit for viewing on June 1. The first location of the traveling exhibit will be on the 2nd floor of the Cox Creative Center in Little Rock. The traveling exhibit will then move to various locations throughout the state. The distribution of the exhibit will be handled by the Arkansas Humanities Council.

Richard Davies inquired about the size of the exhibit. Bill Gatewood described the size and shape. Mark described the content of the exhibit noting that one side would display a year-by-year timeline and the other side would present the Commission's themes for the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Mark also explained that the traveling exhibit is already paid for.

Update on Passport Program

Mark Christ gave an update on the Passport Program. He notes that responses to the program have been very positive. He has already sent additional passports to Historic Washington State Park, Lake Chicot State Park, Arkansas Post National Memorial and White Oak Lake State Park.

Recently Mark sent an email to all the stamping location sites requesting an update on how the program was going at each of their locations. Many sites noted people showing up with passports in hand and ready to be stamped. Randolph County Heritage Museum reported they had a visitor only lacking 3 stamps in their passport. We have mailed thousands of passports from the AHPP office per requests from parties statewide and many teachers have requested passports for their students to use during summer vacation.

John Scott suggested talking to the graphic designer about getting a t-shirt made of the passport logo as there has been some interest expressed by the public.

The initial print number was 20,000 and due to demands Mark has placed an order for an additional 20,000.

John noted that they are trying to get school kids to come in during vacations therefore they are promoting the program to teachers.

Mark also updated the committee about the new comment section on the Passport page of the ACWSC website.

Update on Podcasts

Mark Christ will have ten new podcasts for this season. The Mass Communications Department at UALR is producing these podcasts for us with a student producer. To-date for this season, there are podcasts by Archie Moore, Jamie Brandon, Bill Gurley, Jack Myers, Ken Barnes and Ronnie Nichols.

There is a possibility that the current student producer Adam Richmond might be available during the summer to complete some additional podcasts.

Mark recently recorded the May Sesquicentennial Minutes for KUAR. These are also broadcast on stations in Jonesboro, Texarkana and Fayetteville.

Mark also noted that there will be commercials on KUAR in May and June to promote the passport program.

Update on DAH Cell Phone Tours

Mark Christ passed around an example of the signs for the cell phone tours. He recognized Josh Jenkins of the Department of Arkansas Heritage for his role in producing this program. Two of the signs were installed recently at Cane Hill and Prairie Grove. Additionally, Rachel Silva and Mark set up some of the signs in the central Arkansas area, including one at Bayou Fouche. They are already getting calls on that sign. The next signs to set up will be around Camden.

Cathie Matthews asked if one can listen to the tours without being there. Mark replied that people will be able to do this.

Richard Davies inquired about a press release. Mark responded that they are waiting on Trey Berry to determine the next steps. Bill Gatewood noted that Trey considered announcing the program during the Heritage Month kickoff activities.

Jamie Brandon suggested listing the tour phone numbers on the website.

Mark noted that we will be able to add more of these to the site and this is a virtually free program. The biggest expenses are the signs and posts.

Update on Civil War 150 Kickoff Event

Bill Gatewood updated the Commission on the full day of activities scheduled for Saturday, April 30 beginning at 9:00 a.m. and concluding at 7:00 p.m. The event will open to public at 9:00 a.m. with firing demonstrations of period weapons at 9:30 a.m. The Heritage Month Kickoff will begin with a news conference at 10:00 a.m. with the following schedule:

10:00 a.m. Bill Gatewood (Welcome)
10:03 Cathie Matthews (Heritage Month theme)

10:15 Tommy Dupree (Civil War Sesquicentennial events, Passport Program)
10:20 Cathie Matthews (Unveiling of the Heritage Month poster)
10:25 News conference ends

The rest of the day's schedule will involve activities such as a performance of Julius Caesar, debate over secession, more firing demonstrations, flag presentation, militia muster, meeting of the Arkansas Secession Convention, airing of the AETN program, and a militia ball. The event will conclude at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Christ noted that commissioners are welcome to be on stage for the 10:00 a.m. news conference and kickoff remarks.

Bill informed the Commission of the exhibit preview on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and music and Bill Gurley will give a gallery talk.

Discussion of Budgetary/ Financial Issues

Mark Christ opened the discussion by bringing the commissioners up-to-date with the most recent legislation. The Commission did not receive funding from the General Assembly for the next biennium. However, the General Assembly passed a re-appropriation bill therefore previous funds not spent will be carried forward into next biennium. This will allow us to maintain an administrative analyst and website. Mark noted that the Department of Arkansas Heritage has been very helpful. Our plan is to keep moving forward with existing programs and projects as we have funding. If we run out of passports from our next reprint we will need to determine a way to fund another reprint. The Historical Marker program is grant-funded through Preserve America and NCRC and therefore not affected by the lack of funding from the General Assembly. The greatest impact is on the ACWSC grant program. Unfortunately, right when we really need the grant program to assist in commemorations around the state it has been suspended. Our legislative representative Jon Woods is working to set up an appointment with the Walton Foundation to obtain funding. Mark noted that the plan to hold a commission-sponsored event each year of the commemoration will not be possible unless it is constituent-funded. He gave the example of the Old State House Museum funding the first event.

Mark clarified that the Commission did not receive funding for the next biennium, which is for 2012 and 2013.

Tommy Dupree suggested approaching various foundations within the state such as the Walton Foundation. Possibly constituents in the area would be encouraged to approach local foundations about funding an event for their area. Since there are no funds from the state for next three years Tommy suggests reaching out to private sources.

Cathie Matthews suggested keeping commissioners informed of potential locations for area events then we could focus on foundations in those areas.

Cathie suggested compiling a list of foundations and sending them to Mark Christ. Tommy added that we need to set our event locations and dates and set up a general budget so we are prepared to approach various foundations for funding.

George Lankford noted that a lot of these ideas growing in local communities are only happening now; there is not long foresight present for these types of plans. He noted that the ACWSC events webpage had very little on there but, recently, there has been a surge in events around the state. George also spoke of Round 2 of the ACWSC grants program and mentioned that the funded projects are an excellent example of the kinds of events we wanted to fund when this commission originally set up the grants program. He noted that we were an unfunded mandate from the General Assembly when the Commission first began and now we are unfunded again. Unfortunately, this is the wrong time to be unfunded. He does not think many county organizations are likely to get involved in completing grant proposals from these various organizations and as such this commission really serves as the central connector for many of these county groups. Therefore, George asked if there was some way the Commission could become “grant central” for supporting the grant process for local commemorations and activities.

John Scott and Jamie Brandon inquired about the amount we requested from the General Assembly. Mark noted that our total request was for \$750,000 and much of this went to battlefield preservation. Therefore, \$155,000 would have been targeted toward grants because that is where our commission could assist many constituents around the state.

Richard Davies suggested exploring ways to encourage organizations to do what we would have done with our grant program such as working with the Arkansas Humanities Council to set up a mini-grant. His concern is that companies might not be willing to give funds to small community groups but would give funds to an organization with a history of running successful grant programs.

John commented that when approaching private sector funders we need to present them with specifics for signature events. Tommy added that potential funders will want to see what they are going to get out of it for their area.

George noted the frustration as this commission had reached a point where we were getting local counties involved in creative projects focused on the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Now, just as momentum is building around the state, we can no longer offer funding for these projects.

Tom Ezell inquired about the possibility of setting up a task force with the purpose of marketing to foundations to obtain funding. Tommy noted we originally had a finance committee but perhaps we need to set up another committee. Jamie suggested reviewing our list of commissioners to identify members to spearhead long-term planning, logistics, finances, fundraising and community involvement for each signature event.

Mark reviewed the planned general locations for the signature events:
2012: Northwest Arkansas

2013: Helena

2014: Southwest Arkansas

2015: Return to the Old State House Museum in Central Arkansas

Tommy solicited members of the Commission to volunteer for spearheading one of the signature events for 2012-2015.

The following list includes the commissioners appointed to serve as point-person for each signature event:

2012: Northwest Arkansas (John C. Scott)

2013: Helena (Ernest Cunningham)

2014: Southwest Arkansas (Jamie Brandon)

2015: Return to the Old State House Museum in Central Arkansas (Bill Gatewood)

Tommy presented a motion to vote on the creation of a Signature Events Committee with each member serving as a point-person to spearhead the planning, fundraising and community involvement for one of the signature events during 2012-2015. Tommy appointed the following members: John C. Scott (2012), Ernest Cunningham (2013), Jamie Brandon (2014), and Bill Gatewood (2015). Jamie made the motion; it was seconded and opened for a vote. All voted in favor of the creation of the Signature Events Committee and of the members Tommy appointed to the Committee.

Tommy inquired about funding possibilities for small events. He asked the committee to think of ways that we could raise funds to cover the next three years of grant requests. Tom noted the importance of encouraging and endorsing small events. He suggested providing them with lists of funding sources (i.e. A&P commissions, humanities groups, etc.). John mentioned the community grants sometimes available from local Wal-Mart stores.

Richard suggested using the recent AETN program as a good fundraising tool we could send to private foundations before we present a pitch for funds. Mark added that the entire video will be available through the ACWSC website.

Tom noted that the mission is to provide a resource for communities around the state, therefore if we had a small group of people that could write grants, craft presentations and make a better sell for these communities then they perhaps would have a higher chance of receiving funding.

John noted that he is meeting with the Wal-Mart Foundation next week concerning other funding. He inquired how he could ask for funding on behalf of the Commission as well. Richard suggested requesting Wal-Mart headquarters to encourage local Wal-Mart stores to provide community grants for local Civil War-related events. Tommy noted that only some Wal-Mart stores participate in the community grants program. Richard added that if these Wal-Mart stores had letters from headquarters then that may make a difference as community groups approach them about funding Civil War-related events. John noted the importance of tying projects back to community and education.

George commented that the Arkansas Humanities Council (AHC) is very good about nurturing the individuals and organizations writing proposals. He wondered about the possibility of asking the AHC to set aside a portion of staff time to help grant applicants for local sesquicentennial activities. Mark responded that the AHC has recently gone through budget cuts and is losing a position. However, Mark and Archie Moore could bring up the suggestion at the July planning meeting. Mark is already referring people looking for historical marker matches to the AHC as a possible match source but he is not sure they would be able to help individual grant writers.

Archie Moore asked if the Commission had discussed doing grant writing workshops. Tommy responded that it was discussed when the Commission was first established; however, nothing came of it. Tom discussed putting together resources and guidance on grants for local communities. Tommy asked if Tom would like to volunteer to head this effort. George would like to know what the AHC thinks about the Commission supporting grant applicants. George envisioned the Commission designating a commissioner in each region to be the contact for grant applicants in the area. Jamie commented that this is a great idea but we need to realize the level of time commitment involved in such a project. Tom suggested that the Commission start thinking about networks within the Civil War community in the state, such as the Civil War Trails organization, that are very community oriented. George added that there should be a coherent central group to assist these groups. Tommy noted that the next Civil War Trails meeting will be May 21. He suggested Tom bring this up to the Civil War Trails committee and report back to the Commission.

Mark suggested that in the interim we can gather information on possible funders, especially on the local level. He requested that commissioners send the information to Mark and he will build a list we can provide to those seeking funding. The list can be arranged by region and placed on the website. Tommy requested we have two lists – one for financial support and one for in-kind support.

Discussion of date(s) and location of next ACWSC meeting

Mark Christ stated that the commission will meet July 27, 2011.

Mark noted that the July 2010 meeting was held in northwest Arkansas. However, this year we are not able to hold a meeting in a different part of the state; therefore, the July 2011 meeting will be held in Little Rock.

The location for the July 2011 will be determined at a later date and the Commission will be notified.

ACWSC Subcommittee Reports

There were no official subcommittee reports.

New Business

There was no new business to report.

Adjourn

George Lankford made a motion to adjourn the meeting of the ACWSC and Archie Moore seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes compiled by Darcy Baskin, ACWSC Administrative Analyst.