

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WEST POINT
January 16, 2011 Quarterly Membership Meeting
West Point Downtown Business Center 3:00 PM

Minutes

President Ty Bland called the meeting of the Historical Society of West Point to order at 3:0 p.m., January 16, 2011. Reverend Bill Palmer gave the opening prayer. The minutes of the October 17, 2010 meeting were read and accepted as recorded. Dr. Richard Hosfield gave the Treasurers Report. The balance brought forward for the year was approximately \$12,000. The checking account had \$4,049.73 on the last statement and included funds from current dues. In addition, the Society has two \$10,000 certificates of deposit.

President Bland thanked Sandra Willis for her work on the Christmas home tours. He also announced that another publication would be going out in the April newsletter. Bill Palmer said to let him know of ideas or suggestions for the newsletter. Don O'Connor asked about sending an e-mail or news in between the big newsletter. Graham Evans recommended sending one every year with the dues statement. Avie Williams was not present to report on the museum.

President Bland reported on discussions concerning Beverly Allen School and said he understood they had an offer from an unidentified source but didn't anticipate it would go through. The Historical Society does not have the funding to purchase the property. He also mentioned the old Ashley store that John Crowder would give the organization. Only part of the building could be moved. The Society does not have land to put the building on and the moving expense could be more than the cost of constructing a new building.

Graham Evans asked if the old hotel on Main Street was for sale. Ty reported that the price had come down to \$250,000. He also said the old Victorian style home on 4th and Main was on the market and had come down to \$250,000.

President Bland reported that Gary Smith is not here to report, but he is working with the Town on the virtual museum.

April is the time for the nomination committee to put forward nominations for the upcoming year's officers. Jim Dopp has agreed to be President. We need a secretary and member on the planning committee.

Ty reported that the cell tower had been painted in response to complaints.

Under new business, Dr. Hosfield said that he wanted to mention that we take donations. Money is needed for the new museum.

Bill Palmer introduced our speaker, David Givens. David is a staff archaeologist with the Jamestown Rediscovery Project. He specializes in archaeological Geographic Information Systems. His job involves the linking of volumes of spatial data and archaeological information into a viable and sustainable digital archive. He provides nearly fifteen years of knowledge in Chesapeake and Virginia archaeology and history to the group. Mr. Givens manages the Jamestown Rediscovery website, a successful educational interface between the Rediscovery excavations and the public.

Mr. Givens gave a very interesting talk beginning with how his love for archaeology began with finding an arrow head on his family farm when he was very young. He gave a detailed slide show and descriptions of items found at the dig.

There were approximately 30 people in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m. President Bland announced that Jim Harris brought an aerial photo of the West Point Schools taken during the 1950's by then Principal Homer Humphreys. Will Addison brought a collection of York River artifacts to share with everyone.

The next Quarterly meeting is planned for April 17, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Willis Acting Secretary for
Juanita Cawley
Recording Secretary