

**Beersheba Springs Historical Society Meeting Minutes**  
**May 26, 2018**  
**4:00pm**  
**Grace Chapel**

- I.** Discussion held about whether to offer Art Camp for Beersheba children and adults this year due to lower attendance (9 students last year, compared to 35 students in previous years). Discussion also ensued about who might be able to lead the camp.
- Ellen Cox will ask Peg Williams to lead.
  - Laurel Buntin will ask her neighbor who is an artist to lead an adult art camp.
  - Jana Barrett, Grundy Co. Arts Council, might be helpful.
  - Christy Teasley might be helpful.
- II.** Leonard Tate Scholarship is now a \$1,000 scholarship thanks to a \$500 donation from Mark Lundy and Marion Ridley. Eighteen (18) applicants from the Beersheba area applied. Meagan Shrum of Gruetli-Laager was the recipient. She will be attending Lee University to study psychology. The BSHS would like to invite her to sing at a meeting.
- III.** The Annual Barn Dance will be held July 7, 2018 at 6:00pm. The square dance callers (and possibly Kenny Barrett for line dancing) will attend in October.
- IV.** Dash to the Door, to benefit the Beersheba Medical Clinic, will be held July 7, 2018. Kelly Baggett, President of Clinic Board, presented posters and information cards. House guests and owners are challenged to participate in the Dash. The fundraising goal is \$30,000 (20% of the clinic's operating budget).

The Church of Christ donated the house next door for clinic expansion and a future dental clinic. Classes on reducing diabetes and other diseases will be held in the new space.

Alison Gower is the new Executive Director of the Medical Clinic. She is off to a great start. Additionally, Alison has donated 36 copies of "Charles Dahlgren of Natchez," who was the first owner of Nanhaven.

**V.** Bill Howell gave an update on the hemlock treatments for woolly adelgid. Many trees in Beersheba have been treated, and most were clear. John Adams has forwarded an email to BSHS members with a link to more information. If members have hemlock trees on their property, they must be treated and monitored in the future. The BSHS website has additional information on the threat of the woolly adelgid.

**VI.** Funding for the former Shady Valley Nursery property park project was not included in the governor's budget, although the state has purchased the land. Other state park concerns appear to have derailed progress on this project. Volunteers plan to regroup for next year's budget proposal. BSHS members need to talk to the governor, and TDEC, if possible but will need leverage and advocacy from BSHS

members. John Adams suggested that the BSHS advocate, and Bill Howell recommended that the officers of BSHS write a letter to legislators.

There are two additional tracts that have been approved for purchase, pending agreement with the owners. Sam Baggett was thanked for his tireless efforts over three years.

**VII.** John Adams announced that he will be moving society communications to email through MailChimp.

**VIII.** Future meetings: June 23 (Terry Martin, author, speaks); July 28 (Clopper Almon, resident historian, speaks); August 25 (Beersheba Crafts Fair); September 1 (final meeting)

**IX.** Sanford McGee made a presentation about Mitchell Cove. Sanford grew up here. His parents owned Laurel Falls-Cockrill Cottage. He rode his horse from Cockrill to a farm in the Cove which his grandfather helped preserve. Sanford is a founding member of the South Cumberland Regional Land Trust (501(c)(3)). The Land Trust preserved Shake Rag Hollow fifteen years ago and donated it to the University of the South. He would now like to do a conservation easement of Mitchell Cove. He is raising \$5,700 to complete the easement.

The meeting was adjourned and Stephen Mazza invited everyone to his home, Hemlock Hall, for refreshments.