

## Olive Branch School Preservation Society

### Minutes of the Annual Meeting October 9, 2024

#### Online/Email meeting

*On October 2, 2024, Cyndie Gerken emailed a notice to all members of OBSPS Board of Trustees that, due to the projected absence of several trustees (affecting quorum) and with the need to take care of annual business, the OBSPS Board officers decided to have the October 9, 2024 meeting called to order and take place via email. The parameters would be that Vice Chairman Cyndie Gerken would email a copy of the meeting agenda, the Treasurer's Report, the July 10, 2024 minutes, and the Chairman's Annual Report to all trustees. In addition, she would note what business items would need attention or voted upon. Attendance and voting would be determined by email responses. With permission, Secretary Susan Morgan would assign motions and seconds to decrease the bulkiness of back and forth emails. With no objections to this plan, on October 8, 2024, Cyndie Gerken emailed the above listed items for trustees' review noting that they were welcome to take a few days to review, ask questions and vote by return email. Once all responses were in, minutes would be written. By Thursday October 10, 2024 all members of the Board had responded which allowed the meeting to end and the following minutes to be written.*

The Annual Meeting of the OBSPS was called to order (via email) on October 8, 2024 by Vice Chairman Cyndie Gerken. Trustees attending (per email) were **Jim Leathley, Cyndie Gerken, Sharon Leathley, Susan Morgan, Alec Ashbaugh, Virgil Studebaker, Scott Suther, Sara Suver, Don Wallace** and ex officios TLS Superintendent **Paula Crew** and TLS Director of Facilities **Brian Dixon**. Also attending was OBSPS member **Wes Baker**.

The July 10, 2024 minutes had been previously emailed. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Virgil Studebaker and seconded by Cyndie Gerken. Motion carried per email responses.

The previously emailed Treasurer's Report included that \$1440.00 had been received from The Turner Foundation (third of four payments), and our current treasury balance is \$18,101.64 (balance after committed funds for painting etc. would be \$12,301.64). Notes on status of current grants was included as well as a reminder that 2024 dues are due. Motion to accept the report was made by Scott Suther and seconded by Susan Morgan. Motion carried per email votes.

Under Committee Reports, the Annual Report prepared by Jim Leathley was provided by email for all to review. In the report, Jim gave highlights from each quarterly meeting. He also included a review of two meetings he (Jim) had with Alex Ashbaugh and other contractors regarding bids for painting and dry walling of the SW classroom, ongoing outside building repair plus painting of eaves area, and electrical service to SE classroom. Jim thanked Alec on behalf of us all for all of his assistance. Jim noted that Victory Electric came in for best electric bid for the SE classroom at \$10,000.00 and the amount needed for SW classroom work (\$5,500 for dry walling and paint) for a total of \$15,500.00. These estimates were submitted with the Turner Foundation grant application prepared and submitted by Cyndie Gerken. Jim sadly noted the passing of our Board member Howard Stahl on September 26, 2024. Jim gave tribute to Howard's many contributions to education at TLS as teacher and administrator as well as serving on the OBSPS Board of Trustees. Many of us also called him friend. Lastly Jim noted his continued concern of the long term viability of OBSPS due to minimal and diminishing donations and grants. Jim stated that 2025, our 17<sup>th</sup> year in existence, will be a time for introspection for us all.

## **Olive Branch School Preservation Society**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting October 9, 2024 (cont'd)**

Under Old Business, updates on the SE classroom and foyer are that drywall has been installed and the walls primed and painted by Alec Ashbaugh and his workers. The 2024 Turner Foundation grant award was \$5,760.00 with \$4,320.00 received to date and the balance to be paid in October. Cyndie Gerken has also submitted the 2025 Turner Foundation grant request for \$12,400.00 (80% of the two estimates) for SW classroom drywall and paint (estimate \$5,500.00) and SE Classroom electric work (estimate \$10,000.00).

Under New Business, the reappointment of Board members Alec Ashbaugh and Virgil Studebaker to new three-year terms expiring 10/21/2027 was considered. Motion for reappointment of both members was made by Susan Morgan and seconded by Sharon Leathley. Motion carried per email vote. The second item of New Business was the election of OBSPS officers for the year 2025. The current slate of officers agreed to run again per previous contact by Cyndie Gerken. With no further nominations or discussion, a motion to elect the officer slate of Jim Leathley, Cyndie Gerken, Susan Morgan and Sharon Leathley for the 2025 year was made by Sara Suver and seconded by Don Wallace. Motion carried per email vote. Also noted under New Business was that Alec Ashbaugh and his workers will do exterior painting and OBSPS will pay for paint and labor for Alec's worker. A reminder was given that dues are due for 2024 if members have not already paid.

There was no Miscellaneous Business presented.

Meeting dates for 2025 were tentatively set for January 8, April 9, July 9, and October 8 (Annual Meeting).

The meeting was adjourned by Cyndie Gerken on October 10, 2024 at 4:20PM since all members had responded via email at that time.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Morgan, Secretary