

CYNTHIANA BATTLEFIELDS FOUNDATION

FEBRUARY 2017

Minutes summary of the January 28, 2017 board meeting:

At the January board meeting of the Cynthiana Battlefields Foundation (CBF) various projects were discussed. We are planning to develop a Civil War walking tour to be a part of the City of Cynthiana's new phone app. Another idea would be to get easements from landowners to allow a horse riding tour in the area. As to the existing Chamber of Commerce Civil War driving tour, we want to have the CD re-recorded, with different tracks added, so that the CD flows more smoothly and logically. We wish to make it more easily available, including making it for sale on our website and at various locations in town, as well as the visitor's center and museum.

A major goal of the Foundation is to add more Civil War interpretive signs. As a start, we are working with the Morgan's Men Association to replace the worn interpretive sign in front of the courthouse. That group funded the original about ten years ago and has volunteered to pay for a replacement. The Foundation's goals include adding signage at various important Civil War locations, having a replica cannon placed in a visible area, and attempting to purchase battlefield land or easements for preservation.

The CBF website has been developed by Darryl Smith, who is planning to add battlefield descriptions, maps, historic photos, board member bios, links to the Harrison County Historical Society and Cynthiana-Harrison Co. Museum websites, and other information on the Civil War in Cynthiana. In other business, discussion covered business sponsor requests, membership issues, and social media applications.

The Foundation will have a presence at the upcoming Northern Kentucky Regional History Day on March 25 at the Boone County Public Library in Burlington. A table has been reserved to promote board member Bill Penn's *Kentucky Rebel Town* (he is speaking at the event) and to provide information about our group. We will have a handout to provide visitors, perhaps a membership form.

Founders Dinner - Kristin Church discussed last year's event, which attracted about 25 participants. The 2017 event will be September 23, 30 or October 14. We hope to have a full house, up to 100 people, given there is more time for publicity and planning. Kristin helped sponsor a Turkey Bowl team in Cynthiana for the group and said it got a lot of attention. For this year's event, an auction - silent or verbal - may be added.

We discussed two other events for this year, both involving tours around the anniversary dates of the two Battles of Cynthiana. The dates we chose were June 10 for a driving tour and July 15 for a walking tour. They would begin in late afternoon and would eventually at the cemetery, pending

approval by the cemetery superintendent. Luminaries will be lit around the Confederate monument. We could request sponsors and have Union and CSA re-enactors present as part of the ceremony. We may also have a re-enactor at each tour stop to provide perspective to visitors. The Foundation may want to try to add a Civil War aspect to the town's existing ghost tour, and to promote the CBF and to help us establish more relationships in the community.