



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING February 6, 2020
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Dan Haugen (left 5:45 PM), Pat Hughes, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue (arrived 5:15 PM), Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: Russ Dixon, Judith Keefer

Student Members Present: None

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Jay Shell, Friends Board member
Friends Board members Leslie Mio, George Getschman, and Fred Amrose joined the meeting at 6:30 PM

Ms. Krizanic called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of January 2, 2020**

MOTION: by Haugen, seconded by Rosso:

To approve the minutes of January 2, 2020.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

A. The discussion of the summer strolling event with the Friends was deferred to the joint meeting with the Friends board scheduled for 6:30 PM.

New Business

A. The Board reviewed the Goals level for the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan.

Goal I Objectives were modified and approved (see attachment):

MOTION: by Haugen, seconded by Hughes:

To approve the modified Goal I objectives for the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan update.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

Goal II Objectives were left unchanged and approved (see attachment):

MOTION: by Haugen, seconded by Logue:

To approve the Goal II objectives without changes for the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan update.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

Goal III Objectives were modified and approved (see attachment):

MOTION: by Rosso, seconded by Logue:

To approve the modified Goal III objectives for the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan update.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

Goal IV Objectives were modified and approved (see attachment):

MOTION: by Logue, seconded by Hughes:

To approve the modified Goal IV objectives for the 2021-2024 Strategic Plan update.

VOTE: Yeas, 5
Nays, 0

The Museum Board will review the tasks and strategies for each Strategic Plan goal at upcoming meetings during 2020.

As part of the Strategic Plan discussion, the board agreed by consensus to pursue the formation of an alternate position to the Museum Board, which would permit continuity and help maintain forward momentum should there be any board vacancies or absences. Director Pielack will follow up with the city manager to determine what next steps would be involved.

Also as part of the discussion, the board also reviewed the city's Long Range Planning interdepartmental Collaborative Matrix for preservation that was established in 2019. Director Pielack provided an update on the status of the various activities. Although they all involve potential collaboration with the museum, the Museum Board agreed that many of the matrix projects are the concern of other city departments or allied organizations, with the museum providing support to those efforts. These include:

1. Historic District Study Committee-

- a. **Building plaque repair/replacement**
- b. **Historic walking tour materials**
- c. **Heritage home certificate/plaque program**
- d. **Promoting new properties for historic designation**
- e. **Auditing and updating records of historically designated buildings**
- f. **Publication of Eco City survey and history**

With regard to **g., Raising awareness of Birmingham historical assets with press publications and promotion**, the Museum has incorporated this activity into its ongoing social media and public print articles and outreach, and will continue to do so as part of its regular public engagement. The Museum will also work with the HDSC on any of its planned promotional activities as they arise.

- 2. **Historic District Commission-**
 - a. **Certified Local Government (SHPO) preservation project grant funding at Allen/Hunter Houses**

This preservation activity has been jointly considered by the Museum and Planning department staff liaison for the HDC for applicability to the Hunter House. At this time, the planned preservation projects for the Hunter House were determined not to be appropriate for this grant. The Allen House has not yet been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and so does not qualify.

- 3. **The following collaborative projects are underway and ongoing:**
 - a. **Parks department:** explore improvement of site and trails to enhance public access—currently awaiting review of potential bond issue
 - b. **Parks department:** Integration and continuity of park signage and wayfinding—incorporated into Landscape Master Plan concept for museum grounds and awaiting final funding and design
 - c. **Baldwin Library, Birmingham Public Schools, and Friends of the Birmingham Museum:** enhanced/expanded adult and child history-related enrichment programs--we have been successful in working with all three entities to deliver increasingly popular programs and will continue to do so as a significant part of our community engagement.
- 4. **Greenwood Cemetery Preservation Activities and Cemetery Advisory Committee—**
 - a. **Update/expand/digitize Greenwood Cemetery records**
 - b. **Locate Potter’s Field at Greenwood**

The Museum Board agreed by consensus that it did not see a need to incorporate any of these specific activities in its 2021-2024 Museum Strategic Plan, but will be given regular updates on collaborative preservation projects in the matrix by Museum Director Pielack.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed the Director Report and provided updates. Brian Devlin of Nagy Devlin Land Design has estimated the cost of the main sign to be \$8,000-10,000. The Oak200 oak tree planting project is in process, and the city will be participating. The Museum Board would like to consider a celebratory planting of one of the trees at the museum site, pending review by Mr. Devlin for appropriateness.

There were no member comments.

There were no public comments.

Unfinished Business

Ms. Krizanic continued to the agenda item for the Joint meeting with the Friends of the Birmingham Museum at 6:31 PM.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 5 at the regular time of 5:00 PM with a joint meeting with the Friends to follow at 6:30 PM.

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 7:12 PM.