



CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, March 14, 2019
5:00 PM

Members Present: Jay Cunningham, Russell Dixon, Lori Eaton, Tina Krizanac, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: None

Student Members Present: Meredith Weddell

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Brian Devlin, Nagy Devlin Land Design

Ms. Krizanac called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of February 7, 2019**

MOTION: by Cunningham seconded by Dixon:

To approve the minutes of February 7, 2019.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

A. Brian Devlin of Nagy Devlin Land Designs shared further recommendations regarding plant choices and whether to utilize lattice for the Heritage Zone. Changes from previous design recommendations are:

- Move existing star magnolia from the front of the Allen House to the side and substitute Korean Spice viburnum (not white)
- Omit the weeping hemlock, as it is too formal, but keep 3 small globe arborvitae
- Determine whether to use vining plants on the front lattice near the staff door, as it seems to have been designed for plants (but no photos from the decades of the 1920s-1930s-1940s-1950s show vines there)

Museum Board members agreed by consensus on the plant changes and to leave the lattice unadorned. Mr. Devlin and members discussed options and placement for the primary sign for the museum. Museum Board members agreed by consensus on the following:

- Placement—the existing garden area in front of the bell to be extended in a curve closer to the sidewalk, and a 2-posted free-standing ground sign (one-sided) to be set toward the front of the bed.

- Design—Posts to mimic existing post design on picket fence. Sign to have gentle arch in the middle. Utilize proposed arched free-standing wood sign design option provided in the past by Mr. Devlin. Use baseboard instead of stone, similar to that proposed for Hunter House fence area to be used below main sign to anchor it visually, but to leave space below sign for ease of maintenance and possible low plantings. Sign to incorporate (new) 2017 Museum logo: graphic to be colored and composed of layered material in relief, lettering to be recessed
- Size—Sign to be approximately 4' tall by 8' wide (per ordinance), with the tallest point of the arch no higher than 4 ½ feet.
- Lighting--Up-lighting from ground as additional bid item at construction, pending availability of underground electrical service.
- Additional graphics—graphic of logo only to be reproduced and mounted on gate at Hunter House and on fence at driveway.

MOTION: by Dixon seconded by Keefer:

To recommend that the City of Birmingham accept the final design by Nagy Devlin Land Design, LLC, of the Heritage Zone component of the 2018 Landscape Master Plan for the Birmingham Museum, to be reviewed by the Historic District Commission and, if approved, to be presented to the Birmingham City Commission for final review and approval.

VOTE: Yeas, 7
Nays, 0

- B. Pending design approval by the Historic District Commission and City Commission, the matter of developing specific fund raising strategies can be explored in more detail at the April meeting. The HDC will review the Heritage Zone design at their March 20, 2019 meeting. A Museum Board position will be opening as of May 1, 2019, as Lori Eaton is moving out of the Birmingham area and will be unable to continue on the board. Members would like Museum Director Pielack to approach Bill Dow to determine if he is interested in applying for the open position, which could help with fund raising planning. Other members of the community are also encouraged to apply if interested.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack highlighted portions of the Director Report, including noting that the CREEM documentary release may provide opportunities for a local release and fundraiser perhaps later in the summer, if it is feasible to plan such an event. The CREEM banner outside the former offices was removed for construction and has been replaced now that the weather has improved.

Ms. Logue mentioned that the Friends' Heritage Newsletter included a flyer about upcoming opportunities to raise funds for the Heritage Zone landscape project.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on April 4, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:19 PM