



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 13, 2019
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Jay Cunningham, Dan Haugen, Tina Krizanac, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: Russ Dixon

Student Members Present: None

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

Ms. Krizanac called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and welcomed new Board member Dan Haugen.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of May 2, 2019**

MOTION: by Logue seconded by Keefer:

To approve the minutes of May 2, 2019.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

New Business

- A. Director Pielack reviewed the basic purpose and components of interpretive planning and the benefits of developing a written plan for the Hunter House. New information, current architectural studies, and recent artifact donations make this a good time to undertake a plan development. The interpretive plan would provide a flexible document that would establish the most important interpretive goals, themes, and methods for the museum to use going forward. The board agreed by consensus to include a regular item on the monthly agenda to address separate components of a written plan with proposed content provided by museum staff for its review.
- B. Board members discussed issues relating to community support for the museum, including membership and connecting with new and existing donors effectively. Changing audiences and membership expectations may require approaching the membership question differently to help potential benefactors support a specific project or program. Relying on general membership approaches may be more appropriate for traditional audiences, and the Friends are a crucially important part of supporting the museum. Discussion included ways the Museum Board could be more supportive of the Friends, such as joint ventures and periodic joint meetings to share ideas and resources.

Unfinished Business

- A. Pending the city's finalized logo process, the final Heritage Zone design can be taken to the city commission for review. This may be possible in the next month or so, and, if accepted, the Museum Board can take up the matter of finalizing a funding approach and campaign to complete the work. An anonymous donation to the city of \$15,000 toward the project was received earlier this year, and the Finance Department has created a special dedicated account so those funds will be carried over until the project can be undertaken.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack highlighted portions of the Director Report. She is working on a screening opportunity for the CREEM documentary, reported that invasive phragmites will be removed from the Rouge and the grounds as part of the parks invasive program, and indicated that the Engineering Department and Department of Public Services have been looking into the best way to address a seep that has developed below the pond. The window evaluations have begun on both houses and the roof replacement of both houses is also underway. The architect is working on studying and developing specifications for the repair and restoration of the Hunter House exterior, where damage at the porch has accelerated in recent weeks.

There were no member comments or public comments.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on July 11, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:10 PM.