



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

Members Present: Dan Haugen, Judith Keefer, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue

Members Absent: Russ Dixon, Caitlin Rosso

Student Members Present: Meredith Weddell

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Pat Hughes

Ms. Krizanic called the meeting to order at 5:16 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of August 1, 2019**

**MOTION:** by Keefer, seconded by Logue:

To approve the minutes of August 1, 2019.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 4  
Nays, 0

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Board members reviewed proposed museum methodologies for implementing the Hunter House interpretive plan. It was noted that the various approved forms of implementation meet different needs and audiences and demand varied personnel resources; therefore would be utilized as appropriate and as conditions allow.

Methodologies were grouped as follows:

Direct

1. Exhibits and displays (on and off site)
  - a. City Hall, other institutions or pop-ups (ex: YMCA, post office, Harry Allen Room/Idealab at Baldwin Library, Storefronts with a 'traveling exhibit,' display during election, etc)
2. Guided and self-guided tours (on and off site)
  - a. Hunter House, Greenwood guided and self-guided tours
  - b. Themed and ticketed specialty tours of the Hunter House
3. Lectures and presentations-including conference/joint presentations as appropriate
4. Interactive programs and activities

5. Site events and participation at local community events as appropriate
6. Exterior signage (Hunter House porch) with site information and QR code to online exhibits/maps/brochures (future apps) for afterhours visitors, to be coordinated with overall site

#### Print Publications

1. Handouts/Brochures of details about Hunter House historic resources (ex: can be provided but recycled at end of tours)
2. Short booklets, printed/self-published
3. Print media (history magazines, etc.)

#### Virtual/Electronic Materials

1. Brief video and/or audio presentations
2. Electronic articles and photos
  - a. Website
  - b. eNewsletters
  - c. Local media/online newspapers
3. Electronic exhibits (links, QR, etc.)

#### Social Media/Interactive

1. Facebook
2. Instagram
3. Twitter and other social media platforms as appropriate

**MOTION:** by Keefer, seconded by Logue:

To approve the Hunter House Interpretive Plan methodologies for implementation as proposed.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 4  
Nays, 0

- B. After extensive research, review of grant funding timing and construction requirements, and condition of the Hunter House (in consultation with Jackie Hoist, historical architect from H2A, and city staff in various departments) the plan to apply for CLG grant funds for the Hunter House exterior work will not proceed. The Hunter House needs intervention before the granted funds (if awarded) would allow. There is sufficient funding in our current budget to permit issuing an RFP this fall for a project in the spring of 2020. We will develop the scope of work with Ms. Hoist's input to address the original wood siding, window repairs, and trim repairs in this project, which will provide for better preservation of the building.

## Communication and Reports

Director Pielack highlighted portions of the Director Report. The October lecture in the fall series will discuss the Levinson family, the first Jewish family in Birmingham. Senator Carl Levin and Congressman Sander Levin are direct descendants. They have confirmed that they will attend the presentation; details TBD. The museum staff will be creating a 3-part video series called, "What Were They Thinking?!: Food Edition." Facebook and Twitter members will vote on their favorite from choices of strange, historic recipes from our cookbook collection, and one week later the staff will prepare the recipe and do a live Facebook video taste test (approx.. 5 min.). This will be an experiment in combining a very current take on educational and historic content using items from our collection. If successful, we will pursue other similar video concepts. Also, in light of next year's exhibition theme focusing on women and the centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment, the Museum Board may want to consider doing a reception/fundraiser that can be combined with the Friends' planned special Greenwood Tour of Birmingham's Women. The board agreed to place this item on next month's agenda for further consideration.

Ms. Krizanic expressed her appreciation for the Friends and the wonderful Heritage newsletter they produce. She will write a letter to the Heritage editor and further express the desire of the Museum Board to support the Friends.

There were no public comments.

**The next Regular Meeting will be held October 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM instead of October 3 due to the Museum Director being out of town.**

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:23 PM.