



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, October 10, 2019  
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Dan Haugen, Pat Hughes, Judith Keefer, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue

Members Absent: Caitlin Rosso

Student Members Present: Meredith Weddell

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

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

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of September 4, 2019**

**MOTION:** by Dixon, seconded by Keefer:

To approve the minutes of September 4, 2019.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 6  
Nays, 0

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Board members reviewed proposed museum approaches for the final component of the Hunter House Interpretive Plan: publication and review. The Museum Board agreed by consensus that progress in implementing the plan can be provided as part of regular Museum Board meeting discussion, with an annual verbal report to the Museum Board and a written review and report on a three-year cycle. This will permit the plan to be updated and/or amended on the same cycle as the Strategic Plan. The board suggested that a summary of the plan may be sufficient for publication on the museum's web site; Director Pielack will check with the city manager in that regard. The final draft incorporating all the components of the plan will be presented for final review by the Museum Board at its November meeting.

**New Business**

- A. The Museum Board discussed possible events that might be held in conjunction with the Friends as fundraiser opportunities or to promote the museum and its next

exhibit, which will focus on the women of Birmingham as part of the larger centennial of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote. An additional objective is to help the Friends increase their membership. Several ideas were discussed, including a possible run/walk and an expanded cemetery tour or museum reception event. The upcoming Maple Road construction was also discussed as it may impact event planning. A final ribbon-cutting ceremony in August for the road may be an opportunity as well, as it could be arranged to take place at the Southfield-Maple intersection across the street. A strolling wine event that would perhaps celebrate women business owners was enthusiastically received. Its advantages include the chance to collaborate with downtown merchants, the general appeal of such an event, and the relatively easy planning and coordination it offers. Director Pielack will follow up with the Clerk's office and with the Birmingham Shopping District Executive Director to explore this possibility. The board would like to pursue a joint meeting with the Friends to discuss collaborative options, and agreed by consensus to propose a joint meeting for November 21.

### **Communication and Reports**

Director Pielack updated the Director Report. Martha Baldwin's induction to the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame is a fund-raiser, and the ticket prices are relatively high. The Museum Board is hoping that representatives from our community will be able to be in attendance. The Michigan Museums conference was very productive, and Director Pielack asked if Mr. Haugen and Mr. Hughes (by virtue of their experience and background) could represent the board in a meeting with Leslie Mio of the Friends to review a possible app for the museum that the Friends may be able to fund. The app has features that make it very desirable for exploring historic sites and historic houses via patron smart phones without requiring extensive signage to make content available.

Ms. Krizanic expressed interest in revisiting the time capsule project with the general community, perhaps having a table at the Farmer's Market next year.

Ms. Logue reported a boost in revenue for the cemetery walk and a large number of participants.

Mr. Dixon shared an idea that the museum's next exhibit on women might be an opportunity to partner in some way with a local university women's studies program.

There were no public comments.

**The next Regular Meeting is rescheduled from November 7 to November 21 at 5:30 PM to permit a joint meeting schedule with the Friends of the Birmingham Museum.**

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:05 PM.