



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA  
556 W MAPLE  
Thursday, January 3, 2019  
5:00 PM**

***Mission Statement:** The Birmingham Museum will explore meaningful connections with our past, in order to enrich our community and enhance its character and sustainability. Our mission is to promote understanding of Birmingham's historical and cultural legacy through preservation and interpretation of its ongoing story.*

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Introduction of Guests**
- 4. Approval of the Minutes**
  - A. Minutes of December 3, 2018
- 5. New Business**
  - A. Lauren Wood, DPS Director; Parks Planning/Project Update
- 6. Unfinished Business**
  - A. Heritage Zone Design-Brian Devlin
  - B. Update-Certified Local Government Grant Project for Hunter House-Porch Repair and Paint Analysis
  - A. Update-Fund Raising Strategy/Approach
- 7. Communication and Reports**
  - A. Director Report
  - B. Member comments
  - C. Public comments
- 8. Special Joint Meeting: January 17, 6:30 PM  
Next Regular Meeting: February 7, 5:00 PM**

**9. Adjournment**

NOTICE: Individuals with disabilities requiring accommodations for effective participation in this meeting should contact the city clerk's office at (248) 530-1880 (voice), or (248) 644-5115 (TDD) at least one day in advance to request mobility, visual, hearing or other assistance. *APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MUSEUM BOARD MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND ON THE CITY WEBSITE AT [www.bhamgov.org](http://www.bhamgov.org).* City of Birmingham, 151 Martin, Birmingham, MI 48009; 248.530.1800. Persons with disabilities that may require assistance for effective participation in this public meeting should contact the City Clerk's Office at the number (248) 530-1880, or (248) 644-5115 (for the hearing impaired) at least one day before the meeting to request help in mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance. *Las personas con incapacidad que requieren algún tipo de ayuda para la participación en esta sesión pública deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina del escribano de la ciudad en el número (248) 530-1800 o al (248) 644-5115 (para las personas con incapacidad auditiva) por lo menos un día antes de la reunión para solicitar ayuda a la movilidad, visual, auditiva, o de otras asistencias.* (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).

draft



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, December 6, 2018  
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Russell Dixon, Lori Eaton, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue, Caitlin Rosso (arrived 5:15)

Student Members Present: Joy Tenjeras (arrived 5:15)

Members Absent: Jay Cunningham, Judith Keefer

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Brian Devlin, Nagy Devlin Land Designs

Ms. Krizanic called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of November 1, 2018**

**MOTION:** by Dixon seconded by Logue:

To approve the minutes of November 1, 2018, as amended.

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

**Unfinished Business**

- A. Members discussed upcoming fund-raising efforts for the Heritage Zone and reviewed recent mailers/brochures from local organizations. The library's materials were similar in intent and laid out in a helpful and attractive manner that would provide a good working model. A planned giving brochure was also briefly reviewed. Members will be on the lookout for other sample brochures that may prove useful. The Friends-Museum Board joint meeting January 17 will feature Bill Dow and a discussion of strategies for approaching Heritage Zone fundraising with estimates provided by Brian Devlin.

**New Business**

- A. Brian Devlin of Nagy Devlin Land Designs shared existing conditions detail and reviewed recommendations for the trees and plantings of the Heritage Zone. In particular, to restore the Allen period landscape, existing trees in the front area of the site all along Maple Road should be removed; trees to be planted in that area should instead be elm trees. A variety of elm cultivars would offer some diversity for disease resistance while keeping the species consistent with the original landscape.

The Museum Board agreed by consensus that replacing the existing trees with elms was an important part of the landscape restoration plan following the landscape Master Plan. One of the existing trees in the area of the handicapped parking space is a Callery pear that was planted in 2010 as a memorial gift. The donor is on file with the Parks department and according to the record, did not specify any particular tree for the memorial. Callery pears have been banned from some nearby communities because they have escaped and are reverting to their invasive and troublesome growth habits. The city no longer plants them. The Museum Board would like to approach the donor in a sensitive way to inquire whether the family would be willing to honor the memorial by planting a new tree in its stead. Museum Director Pielack will look into following up on this suggestion. The planned intersection improvement at Southfield and Maple in 2020 was also reviewed. Some questions arose about whether there would be a planting island in the new configuration, and if so, what the planting plans would be as to how they would impact the museum visibility, signage location, etc. Director Pielack will follow up to find out more about final intersection layout. Mr. Devlin will prepare cost estimates and final plans for the January 3 meeting.

- B. An opportunity to pursue a CLG (Certified Local Government) grant for a paint analysis of the Hunter House and repair/rehabilitation of components of the porch has become available, requiring a 40% match if awarded. The deadline for submission is coming up very quickly, as HDC and city approvals have to be received before the application can be submitted. Museum Director Pielack explained the purpose of the grant and the importance of taking advantage of these available dollars to move forward with interpretive planning for the Hunter House.

**MOTION:** by Dixon seconded by Eaton:

To approve the application process by the museum for a Certified Local Government (CLG) shared expense 60/40 grant for the purpose of historic preservation/restoration projects at the Hunter House.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

### **Communication and Reports**

In light of the need for some members' early departure, the Director's Report was acknowledged and there were no further member comments.

**Next Regular Meeting: January 3, 2019 at 5:00 PM.**

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:35 PM

**DATE:** January 6, 2018  
**TO:** Museum Board  
**FROM:** Leslie Pielack, Museum Director  
**SUBJECT:** Director Report

---

Anonymous Donation-The museum received an anonymous donation of \$15,000 toward our landscape project! This will help us in further leveraging donors and moving forward with fundraising strategies to complete the Heritage Zone and beyond.

Open Museum Position-we will be interviewing candidates for our open Museum Assistant position the second week of January; hopefully the position will be filled beginning early February.

Interns and Volunteers-we are considering a second intern for Winter semester and have also brought on board a regular Friday volunteer who will likely formally become an intern in the future. Our internship program continues to be mutually productive and has helped us accomplish many important projects, while providing an education about the operation of small museums.

Roof Repair and Replacement-Allen and Hunter Houses-The commission will be asked to approve a contract with Great Lakes Roofing at its January 14 meeting; we anticipate the project completion in spring, as the weather permits.

Allen House State Historic Preservation Nomination Application-nomination is proceeding and currently timed well for review at the May Review Board hearing in Lansing.

Social Media Standouts-the Museum has a very robust social media following, and we are incorporating social media as part of our community outreach goals. We will be adding a video component to help with audience reach and to support our on- and off-site programming.

Exhibit Schedule, New Exhibit and Spring Lecture Series-We will be holding over our "People of Birmingham" exhibit until March and will extend contributions to the time capsule until then as well. Our new exhibit (working title) is *Birmingham: Before and After*, which will give us several opportunities for creating various vignettes and angles on aspects of culture that have changed. More to come on that; our (increasingly popular) adult lecture series jointly sponsored with the Baldwin Library will take place in March, April, and May. The series title is "Birmingham: What Was and What Is" (all dates and topics are firm but March and April still not confirmed regarding which presenters will speak).

- **March 14: Birmingham Neighborhoods & Their Stories**, George Getschman and Pam DeWeese on Birmingham's unique neighborhoods
- **April 11: Jacobson's, THE Birmingham Department Store**, Author Bruce Kopytek on his book, *Jacobson's: I Miss It So!*
- **May 9: Downtown, Then and Now**, Museum Director Leslie Pielack and BSD Executive Director Ingrid Tighe on the past and present of Birmingham's downtown

Budget Preparation for 2019-2020-is underway, with implementation of the museum's 2017-2020 strategic plan as the main focus. Many repair and maintenance projects have been accomplished in the Allen House and a few remain for the Hunter House; otherwise our budget request should be fairly similar to previous years.

Long Range Planning for 2019 will emphasize the landscape design and construction in phases; additional study of the Hunter House, and making a portion of our Past Perfect object records available online.

SPRING 2019

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM/  
BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ADULT LECTURE SERIES

**BIRMINGHAM:**  
**WHAT WAS & WHAT IS**

THURSDAYS, 7 PM - BALDWIN LIBRARY  
MARCH 14, APRIL 11, & MAY 9

**FREE !**

Register online at the  
Baldwin Library

[www.baldwinlib.org/calendar](http://www.baldwinlib.org/calendar)



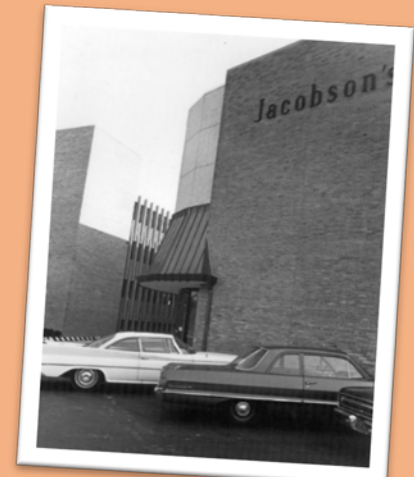
**BIRMINGHAM NEIGHBORHOODS  
& THEIR STORIES - MARCH 14**

Join local historians **GEORGE GETSCHMAN** and **PAM DEWEESE** for a presentation that will highlight some of our unique neighborhoods and their histories, from Birmingham Villa to Eco City to Little San Francisco to Quarton Lake Estates, and more!



**DOWNTOWN, THEN AND NOW - MAY 9**

Museum Director **LESLIE PIELACK** and Birmingham Shopping District Executive Director **INGRID TIGHE** will explore the past and present of Birmingham's internationally renowned downtown and how it helps define our city.



**JACOBSONS- "THE" BIRMINGHAM  
DEPARTMENT STORE - APRIL 11**

**BRUCE KOPYTEK**, author of the popular book, *Jacobsons: I Miss it So!* is back to charm audiences with memories of a Birmingham institution that was a beloved part of the community.