



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
BICENTENNIAL BOOK PROJECT COMMITTEE  
556 W MAPLE  
Thursday, March 23, 2017  
6:00 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. Appointment of Chair**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Introduction of Guests**
- 4. Unfinished Business**
  - A. Book Project Process and Concepts
- 5. Adjournment**

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**DRAFT**



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD  
BOOK PROJECT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, February 16, 2017  
6:00 PM**

Members Present: Caitlin Rosso, Dan Patton, George Getschman  
Members Absent: Tina Krizanic  
Administration: Museum Director, Leslie Pielack

This being the first meeting of the committee, with one member not being present, the board took action to appoint a temporary chair.

**Appointment of Temporary Chair**

Caitlin Rosso was nominated as temporary chair.

**MOTION:** by Patton, seconded by Rosso:

To appoint Caitlin Rosso temporary chair.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 3  
Nays, 0

Ms. Rosso called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

**Introduction of Guests**

None.

**New Business**

The committee agreed by consensus to meet at 6:00 PM on the third Thursday of the month in advance of the Friends of the Birmingham Museum regular board meeting.

The committee clarified its purpose to investigate and explore options for book or other publications as they may impact celebrations or commemorations of the Birmingham bicentennial, which formally occurs on December 1, 1818. The committee will review and research the matter and make recommendations to the Museum Board.

A number of concepts were mentioned, with further brainstorming needed. They covered the following general areas:

- Purpose of the project
- Subject matter to be included
- Practical issues
- Form and format

The brainstorming process will continue into additional meetings to take advantage of comments from those who could not be present at this meeting.

The committee agreed that input from other members of the community would be valuable, especially those who have a broad understanding of the community's history and if they are familiar with publication practices and issues. The committee would be especially interested in suggestions from former Friends President, Pam DeWeese, and Library Director Doug Koschik during this early exploratory phase.

A flip chart or other means of capturing ideas was suggested for the next meeting.

Ms. Rosso adjourned the meeting at 3:43 PM. **Next committee meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2017 at 6:00 PM.**

# Brainstorming Ideas-Bicentennial Book Project 2/16/2017

## Purpose

- Generate revenue?
- Entertain?
- Educate?
- Engage?
- Reference only?
- Fill in gaps of Book of B'ham?
- Document/Preserve content/stories?
- Answer "What's important about Birmingham?"
- "Remember when?"

## Subject Matter Areas/Content

Historical tours

- Downtown
- Greenwood
- Houses

Recent history

Local content/focus

- Kissing Tree
- Ghost Stories
- Henderson's Light
- Doors of Birmingham

Images

- Before and after
- Contributed images
- Maps

Personal narratives

- Diane Bert's oral histories as basis
- Crowd-sourced/contributed

High interest concepts with factual information

## Practical matters

Marketability

Who is the audience?

- Traditional
- Non-traditional

Attention span of audience & best delivery method

### Non-duplication of others' efforts

Book of Bham  
Craig Jolly's Acadia Book (also Christine Blackwell-Bloomfield)  
Senior Men's Club 's past publication/s, e.g., military stories  
Etc

### Form and Format

"Facts" vs. "Stories"  
Encyclopedia-style  
Web content plus print  
Image heavy  
Essay-like profiles of individuals  
Organize/structure with geography/physical location  
Snapshots of history (events)/people/places  
Print on demand  
Series

- Thematic
- Subject matter
- Different authors

### Static or Dynamic

Interactive, electronic, web, etc.  
Prezy-style-bubbles, captions of profiled people or places