



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
BICENTENNIAL BOOK PROJECT COMMITTEE
556 W MAPLE
Wednesday, June 21, 2017
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. Roll Call**
- 2. Introduction of Guests**
- 3. Approval of the Minutes**
 - A. Minutes of April 27, 2017
- 4. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Review Revised Survey
- 5. New Business**
 - B. Series Publication Examples
- 6. Adjournment**

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CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
BOOK PROJECT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, April 27, 2017
6:00 PM

Members Present: Caitlin Rosso, George Getschman, Tina Krizanic Dan Patton
Members Absent: None
Administration: Museum Director, Leslie Pielack
Guests: Former Museum Intern Lori Eaton

Mr. Patton called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM

Introduction of Guests

Ms. Eaton introduced herself.

Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: by Getschman, seconded by Krizanic:

To approve the minutes of March 23, 2017, as amended.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

Committee members briefly discussed additional book project issues. It would be beneficial to consider approaching specific businesses that have historic roots in Birmingham if there was interest in generating revenue for a publication, as is sometimes done by local historical groups. This way the advertisers would also reinforce the community history theme.

Committee members reviewed several different publications provided by Hour Media to demonstrate the various layout options they can offer. A magazine-like layout with images along the border, sidebars for additional interest, and text on the inside pages has good visual appeal.

New Business

A draft survey was reviewed and revisions were made. The committee discussed that it was important to gather good information while not taxing respondents with too much survey content. A modified second draft will be prepared for the next meeting. A message will be forwarded to committee members regarding meeting options for the next meeting.

Mr. Patton adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM. **Next committee meeting date TBD.**

BIRMINGHAM'S BICENTENNIAL is COMING!

On **December 1, 1818**, **Elijah Willits** became the first person to purchase land between Detroit and Pontiac, soon to be followed by others who have made Birmingham a truly great place to live.

That makes **Birmingham's 200th Birthday December 1, 2018**. The Birmingham Museum Board is exploring various ways the community can celebrate our history together, including sponsoring a publication that would coincide with the bicentennial. We do not want to duplicate other books out there—this would be something new. There are many different ways to go about this; your feedback will help us take the right direction.

You can fill out this paper survey or go online to [https://www.surveymonkey.com/\(survey number\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/(survey number)). It's quick, online, completely secure, and your responses will remain anonymous. **Please note: the survey process has a short lifetime and is over quickly, so don't delay.** Survey period is **__mo/day to __mo/day**. (You do not have to live in Birmingham resident to answer the survey.)

1. SUBJECT MATTER Please check all of the following that you think should be included in a Birmingham bicentennial publication.

What do you want to know about?

- Birmingham's earliest history up to 1900
- 1900-1950
- 1950-Present
- How Birmingham fits in to the larger picture of U.S./Michigan history
- Stories of historically important local citizens
- Stories of everyday people
- Historical/factual reference information
- Oral traditions and personal stories
- Curiosities, legends, and tall tales
- Other _____

How do you want to see it?

- Images of historic people and places
- Contemporary images of people and places
- Historic maps
- Modern maps with self-guided tour maps (e.g., cemetery, downtown, etc.)
- Other _____

2. LENGTH, DEPTH and SOURCE of CONTENT Please check all of the following that would be of greatest interest to you in a Birmingham bicentennial publication.

- Shorter, with brief narratives and more images
- Longer, with more detail and fewer images (academic/reference)
- Writing by local historians/writers
- Writing by outside historians/professionals
- A collection of pieces by various contributors
- Contributions from the public (crowd-sourced)
- Would you be interested in sharing stories? If so, please leave your email address:

3. PUBLICATION FORM & FORMAT Please check all of the following that would be appropriate formats for a Birmingham bicentennial publication.

Print options

- Pamphlet or brochure
- Soft cover book
- Hard cover book
- Coffee table book
- Print book with supplementation on the web
- Other _____

Electronic options

- eBook (e.g., Amazon)
- Web page resource (e.g., web article)
- Interactive web site to capture community stories
- An app that provides enhanced virtual experience (e.g., walking tours, sites of interest)
- Other _____

Layouts

- Narrative text with supplemental images
- Encyclopedia-like format
- Magazine-style layout with photo captions and sidebars
- Profiles of individuals and their stories
- Series of smaller stand alone publications that can be combined as a set
- Other _____

4. PUBLICATION AUDIENCE If we produce one or more publications, who should we try to reach?
(Choose as many as you wish)

- Children and families
- General audience
- Businesses
- Educators
- Local residents

5. PRICING Please check all of the following that you think reflect appropriate pricing options:

- \$25 or more for a quality print book
- Less than \$25 for a print book
- An eBook that costs \$10 or less
- \$5 or less for an interactive app

6. ABOUT YOU—please check any/all that apply to you and/or your family.

I/we:

- am/are resident(s) of Birmingham
- have been/am, a member of the *Friends of the Birmingham Museum (Birmingham Historical Society)* or the *Friends of the Baldwin Public Library*
- own a business in Birmingham

A LITTLE MORE ABOUT YOU—please check any/all that apply to you and/or your family.

- 17 & under
- 18-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 55 and older

We want to thank you for giving us your time and sharing your opinions. Please feel free to call us at the museum if you have any questions or additional comments; 248-530-1928.