



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA
556 W MAPLE
Thursday, May 2, 2019**

***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 April 4, 2019
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Government Day
 - B. Museum Board meeting schedule
- 6. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Heritage Zone Fund Raising Plan
- 7. Communication and Reports**
 - A. Director Report
 - B. Member comments
 - C. Public comments
- 8. 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.* 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, April 4, 2019
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Lori Eaton, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue, Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: Jay Cunningham, Russ Dixon, Judith Keefer

Student Members Present: None

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

Ms. Krizanic called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of February 7, 2019**

MOTION: by Logue seconded by Eaton:

To approve the minutes of March 14, 2019.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

A. The Heritage Zone final design was approved by the Historic District Commission/Design Review Board on March 20. It will be presented to the city commission for acceptance on May 22. Pending final acceptance, members reviewed options and approaches that could be used to identify potential donors and to create a special event at the museum to invite them to learn more about the Heritage Zone project in particular and the landscape goals in general. It could also be an opportunity to promote awareness of long term goals of the museum and help form sustainable connections. Based on timing for commission review, any such reception would likely occur in the summer or early fall. Various ideas about the kind of reception and its approach were discussed. Board members agreed that it should combine a type of introduction to the museum and grounds with some kind of celebration or presentation and have identified project components identified with costs and donor opportunities. The goal of the reception would be to make attendees aware of opportunities and be available to answer questions, not to pressure attendees. After general discussion, members agreed on the following:

- Prepare printed materials and graphics to communicate the Heritage Zone project donor funding options (essentially a project component list with descriptions and costs) and planned future projects ('coming attractions')

- Identify those potential donors most likely to be interested in the project/s
- Time the event potentially with other special celebration or program, e.g., final approval for the National Register; special exhibit-related event, etc. and tie into the exhibit theme of 'Before and After' in the landscape
- Use the event as an opportunity to provide behind-the-scenes tours of the museum (collections areas) and especially the landscape
- Bring out especially interesting objects from the collection for the event, such as artifacts found under Woodward or other interesting items
- Consider a special presentation of some kind, e.g., the history of the Allen House, its landscape and the Allen Family
 - Use recent findings and historic photos from the nomination to tell the story of the house and grounds
 - Contact Allen family descendants to see if they might be available to be on hand to share stories or comment on old photos
 - Possible opportunity to record as oral history
 - Possible opportunity to create a later documentary video or higher value production about the family and the house

Museum Director Pielack will follow up with the Allen descendants to see if there would be a way to coordinate their involvement in a possible event. Particulars will be determined following city commission acceptance of the plan.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed a MSHDA grant opportunity that may help fund the relocation of the above-ground utilities underground to remove them as an eyesore in the park landscape. In addition, the invasives that obscure the pond from the sidewalk and neighborhood will be included as a neighborhood enhancement activity. Estimates for the line relocation were obtained last year and would fall within the grant cost guidelines. These activities would not interfere with any planned landscape work. A permit would be required if funding is received that would be reviewed by the Engineering department for the underground utilities work. Board members were in agreement that this would be a worthwhile grant to pursue. Director Pielack announced that this year's Government Day breakfast will be at Hazel Ravines at 7:30 AM on Thursday, May 9. Board members for the various city boards and commission are acknowledged for their service, and departing members receive special thanks and recognition.

- B. Ms. Krizanic thanked Ms. Eaton for her service to the Museum Board and especially her role in successfully nominating the museum for the 2018 Michigan Museums award for excellence in Community Engagement. Ms. Logue and Ms. Rosso also thanked Ms. Eaton for her contributions and expertise.

The next Regular Meeting will be held on May 2, 2019 at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 6:16 PM

BIRMINGHAM The MUSEUM

MUSEUM BOARD
556 WEST MAPLE, BIRMINGHAM, MI
248.530.1928

MEETING SCHEDULE 2019

**All Meetings Scheduled for 5:00 PM, first Thursday of the month,
unless otherwise noted.**

MONTH	DAY	MEETING	LOCATION
January	3	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
February	7	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
March	7	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
April	11	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
May	9	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
June	13	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
July	11	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
August	1	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
September	5	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
October	3	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
November	7	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum
December	5	Regular Meeting	Birmingham Museum

DATE: May 2, 2019
TO: Museum Board
FROM: Leslie Pielack, Museum Director
SUBJECT: Director Report

Time Capsule Project Update—We will be winding down the time capsule project during the summer. We can still accept content from students and plan to include contributions from Museum Board members as well as including our Birmingham 200 exhibit panels and other content from our collection.

New Video Tour of Hunter House to Air on Local Cable Show, "The Collectors" May 2 at 11:30 AM and May 30, 7:30 PM, Channel 18. Host Kent Lund and his crew recently came out to film our own Caitlin Donnelly doing a superb job of showing the Hunter House and telling its story for the 30 min. show. The video will be available as a link after the show airs.

Saginaw Trail Book Sales—we have sold 28 copies of the book both at the museum and at various area talks. The Friends have generously purchased a total of 40 books thus far. In addition, thanks to board member Jay Cunningham, the Detroit Historical Society may be interested in offering the book to sell as well. Furthermore, we may be able to create some collaborative displays with DHS with items related to Birmingham in their collection. Thanks, Jay!

MSHDA Grant Opportunity Update—the museum will not be applying for the MSHDA grant after all, since it turns out that the city's average income is too high for us to qualify. We will continue to look for opportunities to help with funding different aspects of the landscape improvements we have planned.

Adult Lecture Series, update—A very strong showing of over 100 people were on hand for the Historic Neighborhoods presentation by George Getschman and Pam DeWeese on April 11. The slide shows were extremely well done and will make a great virtual exhibit when our web page is re-vamped.

School Tours—Our school tour program again will include a site visit to 4 classrooms at Quarton Elementary on April 26. Students will visit the museum between May 7 and May 23. We have scheduled 28 classes and expect between 500 and 600 students and adults. This year they will take place between May 7 and May 23.

Book from Harry Allen's Library Home Again—A recent donation of pulled books from the Baldwin Library sale has resulted in a treasure...a book that was once in Harry Allen's library, signed by him, is 'back home' in the museum's collection. We were able to locate Harry's signature and it is a match. This illustrates the phrase, "what goes around, comes around!"

SHPO/National Register Listing of Allen House Update—No word yet from Lansing about the application status or next steps. The SHPO office indicated they may not have an answer for us for some time.

Roof Repair and Replacement-Allen and Hunter Houses—still awaiting the schedule for the roof repair, which has been delayed by the cold and wet spring.

Summer Internship Update—Two interns will be joining us from May 1 through August. In addition to school tours, visitor experience and museum operations exposure, special projects dealing with our web site content and set up and special event assistance are planned.

Recent and Upcoming Presentations—Museum staff have been busy with public presentations. Several Saginaw Trail talks have been given and are scheduled, including for the Birmingham Rotary Club. Staff presentations include numerous history programs for a local senior center, Quarton school, and also planned for the Baldwin Library summer series. These programs have become an effective outreach tool.