

CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
NOTICE OF VIRTUAL MEETING

NOTICE DATE: September 25, 2020
MEETING DATE/TIME: October 1 2020 5:00 p.m.
MEETING PLACE: Virtual Meeting

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the regularly scheduled Museum Board meeting for the City of Birmingham will be conducted online using a virtual meeting format. Meetings will be conducted virtually in light of health concerns surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor of Michigan’s Executive Orders that emphasize safety and limiting large gatherings.

Museum Board Zoom Meeting Invitation

Topic: Regular Museum Board Meeting
Time: August 6, 2020 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Potential Future Virtual Meetings:

Nov 5, 2020 05:00 PM
Dec 3, 2020 05:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99524391376>

Meeting ID: 995 2439 1376

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 995 2439 1376

The agenda, agenda packet, and detailed instructions for viewing and participating in the meeting will be posted on the City of Birmingham's website as follows:

www.bhamgov.org/government/boards/mb_agendas.php

Public comment will be handled by the virtual "raise hand" method as controlled by the participant. See instructions as posted on the City of Birmingham website: www.bhamgov.org/participate.

The meeting will be captioned; if participating in the meeting through the Zoom platform the user must select "view subtitles" in order to see the captions.

NOTICE: Individuals requiring accommodations, such as mobility, visual, hearing, interpreter or other assistance, 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.

Las personas que requieren alojamiento, tales como servicios de interpretación, la participación efectiva en esta reunión deben ponerse en contacto con la Oficina del Secretario Municipal al [\(248\) 530-1880](tel:2485301880) por lo menos el día antes de la reunión pública. (Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964).



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD AGENDA
VIRTUAL MEETING
556 W MAPLE
Thursday, October 1, 2020
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. Approval of the Minutes**
 - A. Minutes of September 3 2020
- 4. Unfinished Business**
 - A. George and Eliza Taylor monument funding campaign-update and insights
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Friends membership drive
- 6. Communication and Reports**
 - A. Director Report
 - B. Member comments
 - C. Public comments
- 7. Next Meeting: November 5, 2020 (Currently planned as a virtual meeting)**
- 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).

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**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
September 3, 2020
5:00 PM**

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

Members Absent: Caitlin Rosso

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

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

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of July 9, 2020**

MOTION: by Dixon, seconded by Logue:

To approve the minutes of August 6, 2020.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

A. Members considered final approval of the **2021-2024 Birmingham Museum Strategic Plan**.

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Dixon:

To approve the **2021-2024 Birmingham Museum Strategic Plan** document and to recommend presentation to the City Commission.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

B. Director Pielack provided an update to the George and Eliza Taylor monument funding campaign. The public campaign was launched on September 1 through local media, word of mouth, and distribution of flyers to local historical organizations and personal email networks. WXYZ's online publication printed an article on September 1 and the Birmingham Eccentric has contacted the museum for interviews and more details to do an online as well as a print article. The online version will appear this

weekend (Labor Day weekend), and the print version should appear in the Sunday edition on September 13. As of today, September 3, \$1,045 has been raised toward the \$2,700 goal. Gifts have ranged from \$5 to \$250, with the average donation around \$45. The expectation is that with the additional print exposure, there will be sufficient funding for the monument to be fabricated and installed, hopefully in the spring of 2021, which will permit a greater public involvement in the ceremony (hopefully).

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed the Director Report and provided additional information about the increase in research requests and the positive role being played by the museum in helping people connect with their personal past. The matter of the status of the Friends memberships and the museum's efforts to maintain contact with the Birmingham Farms Neighborhood Association was discussed in the context of how the Museum Board may assist the Friends to help with their membership initiatives. Ms. Logue pointed out that the Friends' annual appeal goes out November 1, and Museum Board assistance with that project would be helpful. Members agreed by consensus to add an agenda item to the October Museum Board meeting to discuss and brainstorm additional ways the Museum Board may be able to help the Friends board and/or museum with membership issues.

There were no board comments.

There were no public comments.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 1 at the regular time of 5:00 PM, currently planned as a virtual meeting subject to the Governor's ongoing executive orders.

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 5:39 PM.

DATE: October 1 2020
TO: Museum Board
FROM: Leslie Pielack, Museum Director
SUBJECT: Director Report

Preservation and Repair Projects-Hunter House—Good progress has been made on the Hunter House preservation work. The drainage work is nearly complete, and work has begun on the siding and windows. They will be hand scraped, primed with two coats, and painted with two coats in a white tone that was determined by our paint analysis last year. New shutters will be installed to replace the existing shutters, which are not original and painted to match existing.

Museum Board Alternate Position—The person who was interested in the alternate board position for the museum is unable to participate at this time. This is a good opportunity to recruit an individual who may be interested in serving with us and can bring an additional perspective.

Fundraising—The Taylor monument project has achieved more than we hoped. We have received donations from \$5 to \$500, and from people all over the Detroit area. This joint project between the Friends and the DAR has demonstrated the best in collaborative partnerships, with the museum coordinating the effort and getting the communication out about the project. This has also brought additional positive attention to Birmingham, Greenwood cemetery's historic importance, and the museum's association with the effort.

Greenwood Cemetery Tours—we have received many calls about the tours and whether private tours can be arranged. This may be attributed to the Taylors' story, but also the general trend in communities focusing more on local history. The Friends are working to accommodate as many private tours as they can manage with the social distancing requirements, and will be using the amplifying headsets outdoors that the museum recently acquired. A live interview on Civic Center TV and 89.3 FM on September 16 highlighted Greenwood's history and the planned tour September 26 as well as the Taylor monument project.

Research Services—continue to be on the upswing. We have earned some revenue from image fees and digitization services as well as research fees for inquiries.

The Virtual Birmingham Museum—staff will be looking at additional topics of historic interest and integrating them into the ongoing city initiatives whenever possible. For example, we will be devoting Facebook Lives in upcoming weeks to some of Birmingham's parks history, which relates to the upcoming parks bond issue and ongoing discussions about that effort.

Inside-Out(reach)—the pop-up exhibit has been successful in drawing new people in to our current theme of women's history. We have had a very good showing of visitors, in spite of Maple Road construction, which for a few days now has completely cut off pedestrian access from the museum from the south side of the road, where the parking garage is. The COVID-19 plan is being followed by everyone and suggests that we will continue to have visitors interested in our events/exhibits in the future, even if the pandemic continues for quite some time yet.