



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, September 4, 2014
6:30 PM**

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Marty Logue, Gretchen Maricak, George Stern

Members Absent: Shawn O'Rourke, Jeff Wilmot

Student Members: Olivia Nielsen, Jake Rotger (arrived at 6:49)

Administration: Museum Director Pielack

Guests: None

Mr. Dixon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of August 8, 2014**

MOTION: by Maricak, seconded by Stern:

To approve the minutes of August 8, 2014, as amended to reflect accurate date of September 4 and correction of Mr. Stern's comments under Miscellaneous Business and Communication.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, none
Absent, 2

Unfinished Business

- A. There were no committee reports from the Collections Committee or the Board Development Committee at this time.
- B. Museum Director Pielack reported that she attended the Parks and Recreation Board meeting in August to bring them up to date on the museum's strategic plan and park issues here at the museum site. It is hoped that as opportunities arise to work together to accomplish like goals, both will benefit. Also, the museum will be holding a special event to announce and celebrate the Charlie Auringer CREEM Magazine Collection. It will include a presentation at the library by Susan Whitall, former editor of CREEM, followed by a reception (open to the public at regular admission prices) here at the museum. Former CREEM staff will be contacted and hopefully be able to join the discussion at the library as well as speak with visitors at the museum. The event will be on Saturday afternoon, November 1. Further details TBD. It will be important for commissioners,

- donors, and other supporters of the museum to be personally invited, and for the press to get information about the event. It was suggested that an announcement or presentation be made at a City Commission meeting as well.
- C. The Museum Board still has a vacancy. Mr. Dixon and Mr. Stern reported that they have not been successful at finding a candidate. Ms. Maricak indicated that she will speak with someone she knows who may be interested.
 - D. Mr. Dixon and Ms. Logue gave a brief report about the Joint Fundraising Committee, which had its first meeting this week and is still in the orientation stage. The plan is for the committee to meet monthly.

New Business

- A. Russell Dixon was nominated as Chair of the Museum Board. There were no other nominees.

MOTION: by Logue, seconded by Maricak:
To appoint Russell Dixon as Chair of the Museum Board.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, none
Absent, 2

- B. The meeting schedule for 2016 was reviewed. The Museum Board will be meeting at 6:30 to accommodate Ms. Maricak's work schedule, instead of at 5:30 PM, but will continue to meet on the first Thursday of the month. December and July there will be no Museum Board meeting.

Miscellaneous Business and Communication

Mr. Stern reported that the Cemetery Committee for the city has not been meeting, but has been disbanded, as its work is done.

Director Pielack re-affirmed that further improvements to the north porch room will be dependent on a museum-wide interpretive plan, which is not likely to be addressed until 2015, as there are other priorities that will be the main focus before then. However, Jennifer Strayer is beginning some interesting research related to the Hunter House's interpretation, which will relate to the interpretive plan for the museum as a whole. It was suggested that the Museum Board would benefit from a review of the Strategic Plan at their next meeting.

Director Pielack also noted that she would like to introduce a collection object as a part of each Museum Board meeting as a fun way for board members to get to know the collection a little better.

Matters Not on the Agenda

None.

Mr. Dixon adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.