



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, April 7, 2016
6:30 PM**

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Marty Logue, Gretchen Maricak, Kate Montgomery, Caitlin Rosso, Jeff Wilmot

Student Members Present: None

Members Absent: Tina Krizanic

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

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

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of March 3, 2016**

MOTION: by Wilmot, seconded by Maricak:

To approve the minutes of March 3, 2016.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

A. The Museum Board took up the matter of the best process to update the Strategic Plan objectives, following the approval of the goals that took place on March 3, 2016. Museum Director Pielack will provide the previous objectives for the appropriate Goals and board members will individually make any changes for those objectives, to be reviewed at subsequent board meetings. Director Pielack will re-send the word clouds compiled when the mission statement was being updated for reference. Each of the four goals will be reviewed in each of the next four months, so that Goal I would be reviewed on May 5, Goal II on June 2, Goal III on August 4, and Goal IV on September 1, 2016.

New Business

A. The proposed recommended light fixture for the park WiFi pole was reviewed.

MOTION: by Montgomery, seconded by Rosso:

To approve the historic style (SWB-NS) lamp fixture recommended by the City of Birmingham's Planning Department staff for installation on the museum grounds in the

Mill Pond Historic District to provide lighting on the public WiFi access point light pole southwest of the pond, to be attached to the recommended pole, and to approve the use of the pole without the light fixture for WiFi access on the museum grounds adjacent to Willits Avenue, north of the pond.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
 Nays, 0

B. The Museum Board reviewed the implications of the Street Name Change Request by the residents on Mill Race Road to change the name of the road to Lakeside Court. The Museum Board noted that it is pleased that the City Commission is interested in the Museum Board's opinion and that the commission values Birmingham's history. The Museum Board also noted with some surprise that no residents were present at its discussion of the impact of this proposed change.

MOTION: by Maricak, seconded by Logue:

To share the following points for consideration to the City Commission regarding the Mill Race Road Name Change Request Review:

- Changing the name of the road is not consistent with preserving Birmingham's history. The mill was an important part of Birmingham's past, as the village developed around it in the mid-19th century, and the name Mill Race preserves that historical time, place, and context.
- Therefore, the Museum Board believes a name change would be detrimental.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
 Nays, 0

Communication and Reports

A. Director Pielack shared updates to the Director Report. Thus far, Commissioners Bordman and DeWeese have visited the museum, and Commissioners Boutros and Harris have yet to complete their visit. The meeting with Ms. Bordman and Mr. DeWeese was positive and productive. The Bell Project pre-bid meeting had approximately five potential bidders in attendance. Bids will be opened April 13 at City Hall at 2:00 p.m., and a special Museum Board meeting will be held on April 21 at 6:30 p.m. to make final recommendations to the City Commission to award the contract.

B. Mr. Dixon suggested that the boundaries of the museum property should be checked for accuracy with any landscape planning going forward, and mentioned that in the past, a Rouge Interpretive Center was discussed for the area adjacent to the museum; also, that the Friends of the museum may be interested in a fundraising format that he has recently learned about that involves a monthly donation. Mr. Wilmot asked about the large Gothic style exterior lights in the basement, and whether those might be sold in the future to generate funds for the museum's collection.

C. There were no public comments.

Mr. Dixon adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.