



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, April 5, 2018  
5:30 PM**

Members Present: James Cunningham, Russell Dixon, Lori Eaton, Judith Keefer, Tina Krizanic, Marty Logue

Student Members Present: none

Members Absent: Caitlin Rosso

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

Ms. Krizanic called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of March 15, 2018**

**MOTION:** by Dixon, seconded by Keefer:

To approve the minutes of March 15, 2018.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 6  
Nays, 0

**Unfinished Business**

A. The board discussed the importance of pursuing a book project such as the one recommended by the subcommittee in October of 2017, but acknowledged that other priority matters will need to be the focus of the board in the coming months. The board agreed to revisit the issue in January of 2019.

**MOTION:** by Dixon, seconded by Keefer:

To table the coffee table book project until it can be re-considered by the Museum board in early 2019.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 6  
Nays, 0

An alternative bicentennial publication, however, would be possible if the museum's current exhibit panels were used as the basis for a smaller-scale booklet, ideally timed

for release in the fall and related to the Bicentennial. Copyright issues and permissions would have to be worked out as well as appropriate layout, publication format, and cost.

**MOTION:** by Dixon, seconded by Eaton:

To embark on a project to incorporate exhibit panels into a publication that would be completed in time for distribution at the planned September garden event.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 6  
Nays, 0

B. The board reviewed the expected timetable for the upcoming year for bicentennial activities:

Spring: May 12, Exhibit Reception, 2 to 4 PM  
May 20, Celebrate Birmingham parade  
Summer: September 9, Garden event/late summer/harvest celebration  
(name TBD)  
Winter: December (1) 2 Winter Markt/Bicentennial themed (TBD)

May 12 Exhibit Reception—presentation of recognition certificates and/or complementary gifts to all panel submitters and panel subjects, hopefully by mayor or commission member/s. Brief program to include welcoming remarks by Museum Board. Outdoors if weather permits, using small canopy tents on patio. Free to the public, serving lemonade, iced tea, water, cookies, cheese, and crackers. Cunningham, Krizanic, Logue confirmed attendance, with Dixon and Keefer tentative. All boards and commissions to be invited with postcards and the Friends members and general public with a press release and electronic notification.

May 20 Celebrate Birmingham parade—museum group will be headed up by the Friends, who are purchasing emerald green T-shirts/baseball shirts for that purpose. Parade is scheduled for May 20, 1 PM, assembling at 12:30. Cunningham, Eaton, Krizanic, Logue with family members, museums staff, and Museum Friends board could easily exceed 20 people. Museum staff will work to create People of Birmingham face cut outs on foam board to be carried along.

September 9 Garden/Late Summer/Harvest Celebration outdoor event—ideally would help raise substantial funds for the landscape “dream.” Stations around grounds could have poster information about plans. Suggestion by Ms. Eaton to approach the event strategically by formulating a funding case statement; she will provide a template for consideration by the board before the next meeting to help orient the board about the essentials of developing this plan, which will facilitate connecting to funders and providing essential information on project financing. This will also help gauge interest in the various projects.

December 2 Bicentennial/Winter Markt—Coordinate activities with tree lighting and Winter Markt, possibly with Shain Park Realtors’ park side space. Costumed people could hand out flyers, etc. (Village Players, etc.) and perhaps perform music or a skit to educate the public.

D. The Museum Board agreed by consensus to change the schedule for remaining regular meetings from 5:30 PM to 5:00 PM on the first Thursday of the month.

### **New Business**

A. The Museum Board briefly reviewed the existing policies and guidelines relating to the use of the Allen and Hunter Houses by private groups in order to consider how to approach developing similar guidelines for the grounds. Existing city park rules and guidelines will be forwarded to the board to review as well, but the museum site may need special policies due to the historic and natural features of the grounds and the recently completed Master Landscape Concept Plan. The May Museum Board meeting will address the development of appropriate policies in keeping with museum and park needs to make final recommendations to the city commission.

### **Communication and Reports**

A. Museum Director Pielack reviewed her report and provided updates. The Birmingham Concert Band has indicated they would be available to perform at a summer or fall event, which the Museum Board as a whole was receptive to. Director Pielack also gave a quick review of some exhibit panel links she was able to create on the museum's web page with help from the city's web team.

B. Mr. Dixon stated that Gretchen Maricak's artwork collection will be received in total by Wayne State University's art program. At the urging of the Museum Board, he will inquire whether there is a way for the ownership of the two pieces she did of the Allen and Hunter Houses to be transferred to the museum for its collection.

C. There were no public comments.

The next regular meeting will be **May 3, 2018 at 5:00 PM.**

Ms. Krizanic adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.