



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD
MEETING March 5, 2020
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Dan Haugen, Pat Hughes, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue,
Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: Tina Krizanic

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Friends Board member George Getschman joined the meeting at
6:30 PM

Ms. Krizanic being absent, the Museum Board elected a temporary chair.

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Hughes:

To appoint Marty Logue as temporary chair.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

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

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of February 6, 2020**

MOTION: by Haugen, seconded by Keefer:

To approve the minutes of February 6, 2020.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

- A. The discussion of the summer strolling event with the Friends was deferred to the joint meeting with the Friends board scheduled for 6:30 PM.

New Business

- A. The Board reviewed recommendations for The Birmingham Plan master plan.
- The board discussed various aspects of the museum's separate interests and needs and how it should be represented in the city's final master plan. The

board emphasized that the museum grounds, although public, do not fit the category of "Neighborhood Park" as reflected in the plan, and as a historic site, recommendations in The Birmingham Plan would not be appropriate for the museum. Others, such as improved pathways, seating, etc. may be beneficial, but should be coordinated with our 2018 Birmingham Museum Landscape Master Plan as implemented by the city.

- The board also was very supportive of aspects of The Birmingham Plan that calls for improvements and management of the Rouge corridor as a natural resource.
- As the Birmingham Museum is not identified as a civic resource and only mentioned briefly, the Museum Board developed descriptive verbage to recommend for inclusion in the final Birmingham Plan:
 - The Birmingham Museum is a unique civic and natural resource consisting of two designated historic buildings as well as a three-acre park along the Rouge corridor. It shares some characteristics of other public sites in the city, but as a standalone institution and preserved historic property, has distinct features and needs. These are set forth by guidelines from the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties as well as in separate museum Master and Strategic Plan documents. These circumstances make some aspects of The Birmingham Plan more applicable and appropriate than others, which would be considered on a case-by-case basis as The Plan is implemented.

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Rosso:

To approve the Museum Board recommendations to the Planning Director as discussed for the Birmingham Plan subject to final refinement by the Museum Director.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

- B. The Board reviewed the draft ordinance language from the city attorney's office to amend the existing ordinance to add an alternate Museum Board member to the existing seven-member board.

MOTION: by Haugen, seconded by Rosso:

To approve the draft ordinance language as presented to add one alternate member to serve a term of three (3) years, who shall be a qualified city elector.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed the Director Report and provided updates. Mr. Dixon inquired about the delay for the work on the Hunter House RFP; Director Pielack clarified that the architect had been ill and a meeting is scheduled next week to make final decisions about drainage issues for the building before the RFP can be finalized.

Ms. Keefer expressed her desire for full board involvement in the planned fundraising event this summer and asked members to indicate their commitment to help. All members indicated their commitment, but there could be conflict with some schedules.

There were no public comments.

Unfinished Business

After a brief recess from 6:15 to 6:30, Ms. Logue reconvened the meeting with the addition of Friends board member George Getschman. Mr. Dixon left the meeting.

Mr. Hughes and Director Pielack summarized their meeting with Birmingham Shopping District Executive Director Ingrid Tighe about a collaborative event during the construction season that would involve approximately 8 sites, four of which would be restaurants that could serve alcohol and hors d'oeuvres, and four of which would be retailers.

Based on a review of the time of year, construction issues, and risks/benefits of organizing such an event, the Museum Board and Friends agreed to

- An event on June 20 with a focus on Father's Day (the next day)
- Lower priced to factor in construction
- Perhaps hardhat theme, beer instead of wine
- Consider one caterer to provide food/alcohol on all sites
- Retail incentives for ticket holders for Father's Day, e.g., discounts, free parking
- Retail participants such as Churchills, men's stores
- Seek sponsors for hardhats for ticket holders
- Use this event to gauge interest and help with possible fall event

Mr. Hughes recommended attendance to the next scheduled Royal Oak event, "May Wine Stroll" on May 16. Director Pielack will follow up with the BSD and Event Brite to determine next steps and will find out about required alcohol licensing.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 2 at the regular time of 5:00 PM.

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 6:58 PM.