



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
556 W. Maple
Thursday, July 1, 2021
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Russ Dixon, Pat Hughes, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Jacquie Patt
Caitlin Rosso

Members Absent: Tina Krizanic

Student Members: None

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris

Chair Krizanic being absent, member Russ Dixon suggested that the meeting be called to order at 5:02 PM. A temporary Chair was elected for the meeting.

MOTION: by Dixon, seconded by Keefer:

To appoint Marty Logue as temporary Chair.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of June 3, 2021**

MOTION: by Dixon, seconded by Keefer:

To approve the minutes of June 3, 2021.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

None.

New Business

Director Pielack reviewed the need to re-open the museum due to recent changes and updates in state and city COVID policies and practices. The museum will have a phased re-opening: June 15-30, it was open Tues-Wed-Thu 1 to 4 PM, with Friday's Porch Pop Up exhibits from 1 to 4 PM. Beginning July 1, the museum will also be open to visitors

on Fridays from 1 to 4, and the pop ups will continue through September 30. After Labor Day, the museum will return to its full public schedule, which includes the first Thursday of the month until 8 and adds Saturdays from 1 to 4 PM. Regular admission is being charged for the museum, but the pop ups are free. Since June 15, the museum has seen steady interest and visitation, which is about twice the usual visitation for this time of the summer. Visitors are staying longer and very upbeat and enthusiastic. Director Pielack provided an update to the board member recruitment process. Ms. Erickson has applied to the city for a regular board member position, and Ms. Harris has applied for the alternate board member position. A regular board member position remains open at this time. Appointments are anticipated at the July 26 meeting of the City Commission. Director Pielack also explained that the August Museum Board meeting would have an agenda item to elect a Chair for the remainder of the fiscal year, and briefly outlined the duties of the Chair.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed the Director Report and added a few updates. The museum now has a listing with Pure Michigan, which includes a slideshow and captions as well as updated content. The Friends have purchased another 10 issues of CREEM Magazine to help fill in some of the blanks in the museum's collection, especially noteworthy are two Prince covers from 1985 and 1986 and a "Mr. Dream Whip" cover from 1971 by R. Crumb. Also of note, the museum received a request to donate two of the three elm trees scheduled to go in with the Phase I Heritage Zone project. This is a very generous donation in the amount of \$1500. The donor is from out of state but found the project through searching online, as the family grew up here and loves Birmingham.

Mr. Hughes suggested that there may be an opportunity to generate interest in the museum and also additional funding by holding a competition of sorts based on residents submitting their vintage photos with a donation of cash to the museum. This could result in active engagement as well as physical materials for the museum. Board members agreed that this would be a great project. Director Pielack suggested that timing will make this project most successful and will get input from museum staff about the best way to approach this type of project.

There were no public comments.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 5 at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:28 PM.