



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
556 W. Maple
Thursday, October 7, 2021
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Caitlin Rosso, Jay Shell, Pat Hughes (arrived at 5:15)

Members Absent: None

Student Members: None

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack

Guests: None

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of September 2, 2021**

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Rosso:

To approve the minutes of September 2, 2021.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

The spring 2022 heritage garden community plant exchange/event will be reviewed every month on an ongoing basis, but due the delay in construction of the sign in the garden area, we don't have sufficient information yet to continue with any specific plans. Director Pielack will be in touch with the landscape architect, Brian Devlin, to get his input on appropriate perennial plants for the heritage garden area.

New Business

The board briefly reviewed the de-accession process in the new Collection Policy, with discussion and examples of various collection issues that arise and how de-accession of objects in the permanent collection can help the museum. The Collections Subcommittee, composed of Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, and Caitlin Rosso, first reviews proposed deaccession objects presented by the museum staff. After they meet and review, they make recommendations to the Museum Board as a whole, which determines whether to forward the recommendations to the City Commission, which has the final authority to approve any deaccessions. Members discussed various aspects of

the Collections Subcommittee role and the Museum Board role, with the general consensus that it is a learning process and will become clearer as it begins. The Collections Subcommittee will likely be meeting in the next month to review, when museum staff has the necessary paperwork ready. Subcommittee meetings are considered public meetings and will have a posted agenda and Zoom attendance option for the public. Subcommittee findings will be referenced in minutes and posted, and those minutes would become part of the subsequent Museum Board agenda for their review.

Director Pielack explained that the first group of deaccessions is likely going to be straightforward, dealing with books that were brought into the permanent collection many years ago, but which are more appropriate as general reference books in the museum's library.

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack reviewed the Director Report, providing updates on proposals for the engineering study of the ADA parking off Willits, the new website content, and the proposed application for designation of Greenwood Cemetery by the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. This designation will require approval by the City Commission, since it is city property. Director Pielack is expected to take the matter to the commission after the election in November, and hopefully will be able to meet the December 1 deadline for submission.

There were no board member comments.

There were no public comments

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 4, at 5:00 PM.

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:45 PM.