



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
556 W. Maple
Thursday, June 2, 2022
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Kristy Barrett, Bev Erickson, Alexandra Harris, Marty Logue

Members Absent: Pat Hughes, Judith Keefer, Caitlin Rosso, Jay Shell

Student Members: Jordan Snyder-Phillipoff

Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack,

Guests: None

Chairperson Logue called the meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of May 5, 2022**

MOTION: by Logue, seconded by Barrett:

To approve the minutes of May 5, 2022.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

Updates for the status of the **Heritage Plant Exchange** included the following:

- Promotion
 - In addition to previous promotion, Ms. Harris has distributed flyers to neighbors, the DPS Open House, the Farmers Market, and City Hall
 - The City's Engage Birmingham site shows quite a bit of activity at the page in the last few days
 - A banner sign has been displayed for the past week and a half on the porch of the museum
- Staffing/personnel
 - Ms. Snyder will be on hand to assist and take photos
 - All four museum staff will be on hand for Allen House and Hunter House visitors and to assist outdoors as needed-tour admission will apply
 - Mr. Shell, Ms. Keefer, Ms. Harris, and Ms. Barrett will be on site
- Other
 - Plants for the museum garden will be set in the plot against the sign and mulched until DPS can plant them Monday or Tuesday

Updates for the **Underground Railroad Commemoration Event** included the following:

- The following speakers have been confirmed
 - **Marty Logue** as Emcee and Museum Board Representative
 - **George Getschman, Jacquie Patt, and Donna Casaceli**
 - **Mayor Therese Longe**
 - Letter from **Michigan Freedom Trail Commission** (has a major event that day and cannot send a representative) read by Director Pielack
 - **Jay Snyder**
 - **Pastor Adam Kuehner**
- The regulations for installation of historic markers by non-deed holders have not been finalized and will likely be delayed for approval until July's Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Board meeting. This may delay the order and installation of the physical marker for the Taylors, but a mock up can be in place for the cemetery event.

New Business

Director Pielack provided an update on the window restoration project and its impact on the museum and staff. The museum will need to close due to the need to mitigate lead in the old paint that will be disturbed on the upper floor of the building. Artifacts and staff will need to be relocated; staff will be working from the Baldwin Library, which is providing a space with computers and a phone as well as periodically working in the lower floors of the Allen House. The museum will need to be closed after June 10 and will re-open August 9. Due to the circumstances and lack of pressing business, Director Pielack recommended the Museum Board consider canceling the July meeting.

MOTION: by Logue, seconded by Erickson:

To cancel the July Museum Board meeting due to the closure of the museum and ongoing construction project in the building that includes lead mitigation.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack provided updates to the Director Report. Plans for improving the Pond Zone with parking and paths are moving forward through the design phase, with various components planned for construction in FY 2022-23; funding will include the museum budget, parks bond funding, and CDBG funding, in addition to potential donor funding. Planned staffing increases will be included in the final budget, which will be presented to

the City Commission on June 27. The new exhibit will be entitled, "A Tapestry of Birmingham: Exploring our Diversity," and will feature a graphic with a montage of images of some of the people who will be featured in the exhibit, which will open in August with the museum re-opening, and also featured in the museum's historic lecture series at the Baldwin Library.

Ms. Barrett suggested the lectures be noticed in the school's newsletter for greater visibility.

There were no public comments.

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

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 6:03 PM.