



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM  
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING  
556 W. Maple  
Thursday, August 8, 2023  
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Caroline Ashleigh, Alexandra Harris, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Jay Shell  
Members Absent: Kristy Barrett (Alternate), Bev Erickson, Pat Hughes  
Student Members Present: Alexander Motea  
Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack  
Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by temporary chair, Ms Logue.

**Election of Chair**

Nominations were made for Chair for FY 2023-2024. Ms. Logue was the sole nominee.

**MOTION:** by Keefer, seconded by Harris:

To approve Marty Logue as Chair for FY 2023-2024.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of July 6, 2023**

**MOTION:** by Keefer, seconded by Harris:

To approve the minutes of July 6, 2023.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0

**New Business**

Members reviewed interpretive plan recommendations from museum staff as to identified/listed historic and cultural resources for the final plan of the museum site (excluding the Hunter House). After discussion and clarification, the following historic and cultural resources were established by consensus:

1. Allen House (the Hunter House has a separate Interpretive Plan)
2. Grounds
  - a. Pool
    - i. Natural springs/environmental importance
    - ii. Allen swimming pool; Jim Allen's polio history
    - iii. Wildlife, native plantings
  - b. Gardens

- i. Heritage plants
    - ii. Water gardens for storm water management
    - iii. Pathways
  - c. Walls-19th century
  - d. Rouge River
- 3. Hill School Bell and structure
- 4. Main museum sign
- 5. Permanent collection
  - a. Audio/visual materials
  - b. Born digital/digital only objects
  - c. 2-D objects and archives
    - i. Documents, books, and ledgers
    - ii. Photos
    - iii. Creem Magazine archives
    - iv. Vertical files and information
  - d. 3-D objects
- 6. Use collection
- 7. Greenwood Cemetery and digital FindAGrave files
- 8. Traveling exhibit materials
- 9. Professional staff and trained volunteers

The atypical inclusion of the signage was explained by Director Pielack as a reference to the effect the sign and logo has had on conveying the site's components and importance to the community. Additional discussion focused on the valuable resources of our professional staff and trained volunteers, and that identifying them for the purpose of the interpretive plan helps to recognize how important they are to our interpretive process.

### **Communication and Reports**

Director Pielack provided updates to the Director's Report and shared traditionally crafted Anishnaabe baskets that were recently donated to the museum's collection to help interpret the local Indigenous People who occupied the area before Birmingham was settled. The items are not antique, but are traditionally made, making them historically valuable to the museum. The Collections Subcommittee will meet August 30, 2023 to review recommended deaccession for the Wong family of personal items that were originally donated from an estate sale. If approved by the Collections Subcommittee, the Museum Board agreed to include the item on the agenda for the September meeting.

### **Member Comments**

None.

### **Public Comments**

None.

**The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 7, at 5:00 PM.** Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:56 PM.