



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

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Chairperson Logue.

**Approval of the Minutes  
Minutes of September 7, 2023**

**MOTION:** by Keefer, seconded by Ashleigh:

To approve the minutes of September 7, 2023.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 7  
Nays, 0

**New Business**

Members reviewed the proposed 2024 meeting schedule for the Museum Board, which includes a change from the first Thursday of July to the second Thursday, July 11, due to the holiday falling on the first Thursday. A second proposed change is to hold no meetings during October of 2024, as each Thursday falls on an observed religious holiday.

**MOTION:** by Barrett, seconded by Shell:

To approve the proposed 2024 schedule with the change from July 4 to July 11 and the omission of an October meeting.

**VOTE:** Yeas, 7  
Nays, 0

**Communication and Reports**

Director Pielack provided updates to the Director's Report. There have been delays in the storm window project and weather delays in the ADA parking space/sidewalk along Willits, but both projects should be completed by winter. The George and Eliza Taylor marker has been inscribed by the memorial inscription company, but they made an error, so the erroneous marker will be installed while another is fabricated. This may take as long as a

year. The error is on layout of the names and the 'circa' term for their birth dates, which will need correcting but can be placed on the grave with an explanatory sign to clarify the situation. Our podcast has had really good interest and download statistics, and Caitlin will be doing a special collaborative theme to work with the Birmingham Shopping District in sharing the history of the downtown. The museum will be holding a special 4-part lecture series at the museum on Saturdays during Black History month to draw additional attention to our local Black history, and a bus tour of southern Oakland County UGRR sites is in the works for Juneteenth that would include Farmington, Southfield, Royal Oak, Birmingham, and Pontiac. The museum has a new Indigenous People of Oakland County virtual exhibit page on the museum's website, which will have content related to the Anishnaabe tribes that occupied this area and feature items from our recently donated basket collection. Also recently donated were some items for the museum's Use Collection that were in everyday use in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, including a maple cutting board, preservation crock, and a wooden dough bowl. These items help enhance visitor experience of the Hunter House, because they can be set out and even touched by visitors, as deemed appropriate by staff.

### **Member Comments**

Chairperson Logue reported that the recent Friends' cemetery tour was very successful, with 37 people in attendance, and that an additional private tour makes about 50 people who toured the cemetery this fall, generating funds for the Friends and the special cemetery preservation fund.

### **Public Comments**

None.

**The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2023, at 5:00 PM.**

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 5:53 PM.