



## Minutes

Board Meeting

Siouxland Heritage Museums

Thursday, December 3, 2020, 11:30 AM

Conference Room, Irene Hall Museum Resource Center, 4300 N. Westport Avenue

Board Present: Roger Buechler, (present in person) Tim Schendel, Pat Starr, Kim Koblank, Nikki Gronli, Dianne Metli, Greg Olsen, and Jeff Barth (present via Zoom)

Board Absent: Liz Squyer, Allison Struck, Jerry Beckler

Others in attendance: Bill Hoskins,

Kim Koblank called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

Minutes of the November 5 meeting were provided electronically to the Board. Tim moved to approve the November minutes. Jeff seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as published.

Public Input: Bill Hoskins read several thank notes addressed to the Museum to the Board.

Greg Olsen reported that there was nothing to report on the Siouxland Heritage Museums Alliance. The next meeting of the Alliance Board is scheduled for Thursday, December 10. The Alliance is planning for next year.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director, delivered a financial update to the board regarding Museum budget balances as of December 1, 2020. Bill commented upon some of the building maintenance projects which were completed in November for which we have not yet received an invoice and are not reflected in the current report. All budget will end the year in the black. Surplus funds in the Operations and Maintenance budgets at the end of the year will be reconciled and returned to the general fund. Dianne moved to approve the financial report. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director delivered a report on the Museum Operation over the last month. Highlights include: The Siouxland Heritage Museums Endowment at the Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation received a donation of \$150,000 on November 10, 2020. The total value is now approximately \$1.9 million. The "Visitor's Count" Survey is still moving along slowly. We have collected about 70 surveys in the second round. We will try to wrap up the surveys in December.



200 W. 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57104

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P: (605)367-4210

F: (605)367-6004

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The book, "The Girl Who Moved to the Town That Wasn't There" is available at Child's Play and Zambroz in downtown Sioux Falls as well as the Old Courthouse Museum Store and the Pipestone County Museum Store. We have sold approximately ¼ of the printing. Suzanne Fuller presented a delightful book talk in the Courtroom of the Old Courthouse Museum on November 8. Unfortunately, due to COVID her other scheduled talks have been cancelled. Jessie Nesseim, Curator of Collections, transported one of the Tuthill Sulkies to Hanson Wheelwright in Letcher, South Dakota for restoration work. Money for the conservation treatment was appropriated from the Endowment in the past. The staff has completed a new exhibit at the Pettigrew Home and Museum. "The Collectors" is a look at the people who contributed their personal collections to the Pettigrew Museum in the 1920's and 1930's and helped to make the Museum Collection what it is today. Building Maintenance in November included; Boiler #2 at the MRC was out of service. Howe Plumbing and heating came to repair. A burner in one of the rooftop HVAC Units for the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Pettigrew Gallery was replaced by Johnson Controls. A power surge resulted in two of the motion detectors in the Pettigrew Historic House being replaced by Midwest Alarms. Electric Construction installed new track lighting in the north half of Exhibit Gallery IV at the Old Courthouse Museum. This is paid for by Endowment Money appropriated for the project in 2019. COVID has had a profound impact on the Museum Operations and attendance. Two employees were diagnosed with COVID in November. An additional three were out of work on quarantine. Luckily the staff is spread out and the contacts were of a minimum. All staff have returned to work without ill effects. We are applying to participate in the "Safer Sioux Falls Pledge" for all building. This is a program of the City of Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce and Sioux Falls Development Foundation. We meet all the criteria without changes to how we are doing business. We have decided to suspend the Winter Concert Series.

Pat Starr commented upon the plight of the Tuthill House in Tuthill Park. Neglect of building maintenance has resulted in a recommendation from the Parks Board to the City Council to tear down the house. The resolution will be heard by the City Council on Tuesday evening. Pat commented that the Parks went through an accreditation process and one of the recommendations was the for the creation of a foundation to receive private funds for project such as the Tuthill House. Jeff asked the question of if it is torn down are there features of the house that might be preserved in the museum collection. Bill commented that he had not been in the building for many years and that was possible but unknown.

Jeff commented that the Minnehaha County Commission was discussing reducing the number of meetings per month. Jeff suggested that the Board consider holding fewer meetings in the new year. Bill will prepare several meeting schedule options for discussion at the January Meeting when the board sets the schedule for the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13.

The next Museum Board Meeting will be Thursday, January 7, 2021, 11:30 AM at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center, 4300 N. Westport Avenue and via Zoom.

Museum Mission: *“The Siouxland Heritage Museums is dedicated to enhancing the experience of learning for our community, its families and visitors through collections, preservation and interpretation of history”*