

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan

Board of Trustees Meeting AGENDA

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 @ 4:30 p.m.

Our mission is to collect, preserve, interpret, and exhibit authentic articles and artifacts of art, history, and science to inspire curiosity for all ages, foster community pride, and cultivate personal legacy.

Board Members Present: Secretary, Ashley Peterson, **Treasurer**, Sue Stender, Michelle Miller, Claudia Chapman, Tuffy Cross, Jim Johnson, Jon Gougeon, Janet Young, Dan Florip, Julie Austin, Sara Winter, and Brian Bartosh

Absent: **President** Gary Goren, **Vice President** Mike Beaulac

1) Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Sue Stender at 4:31 pm. A quorum was established.

2) Review February 20, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes for approval (*action item*)

The Board minutes from February 2024 were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Janet Young with support from Tuffy Cross. All in favor. Motion carried.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT: (Sue Stender) Treasurer's report on February and March 2024 financials.

Treasurer's report regarding February & March 2024 financials was included in the board packet and completed by Sue Stender. Sue Stender discussed key points for both months and documents were filed as reported.

4) Reports to the Board:

- a. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** A full report was submitted and is accessible online at the museum website.
 - a. **Solar Eclipse event:** The turnout was very successful - 624 admissions that day with additional sales of eclipse viewing glasses in the months before the event.
 - b. **Field Trips:** 677 students across 20 schools will visit the museum in the next 7 weeks before the end of the school year. Booklets have been made regarding fisheries
 - c. **Discover Northeast Michigan History:** Design staff will be in the museum next week for specific measurements to begin creating exhibit aspects. Besser Museum will work to highlight the generous donations across the community.
- b. **AD HOC COMMITTEES:**

- a. **GOVERNANCE REPORT:** Tuffy, Michelle, and Claudia are nearing the end of their 3rd three-year term. The board discussed an amendment to the bylaws to explore the permissibility of extending board members' term until the end of the Discover Northeast Michigan History exhibit project, which is slated to be completed in December 2024. Dan will explore potential language for this amendment to be shared at the next board meeting.
- b. **GREAT LAKES FISHERIES HERITAGE EXHIBIT: Chinook Project:** (Jim Johnson report) Chinook Shelter is coming along - lights are in and they will be seeding the grass.
 - i. **Katherine V:** (Tuffy Cross report)
- c. **DISCOVER NORTHEAST MICHIGAN HISTORY:** See the Director's detailed report.
- d. **FINE ART COMMITTEE:** No report
- e. **COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE:** (Claudia Chapman): artifact accession/deaccession proposal
 - i. Claudia proposed two items for accession. Motion to approve by Claudia with support from Sarah Winter. All in favor. Motion carried.

5) Old Business:

No new business.

6) New Business:

Received a thank you letter from Bronwyn Woolman & the Girl Scouts who displayed their exhibit January 20th - March 31st at Besser Museum. The letter noted the positive impact of the experience for the girls and the deep appreciation to Chris, Matt, and Sarah for their support regarding this project.

There is one board vacancy and an individual has come forward with interest to join.

7) Adjourn

A motion to adjourn by Brian Bartosh and second by Sue Stender. The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.