

**Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Besser Museum Membership
Tuesday, June 20, 2017 – 4:30 PM**

Welcome and Call to Order: President, Ann Diamond

Minutes:

First order of business is to accept the June 2016 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report: Judy Suszek

President Report: Ann Diamond

Committee Reports:

Katherine V: Tuffy Cross

Chinook: Jim Johnson

Planetarium: Steve Lappan

Fine Art: Carol Witherbee

Collection: Claudia Chapman

Facility Committee: Mike Ableidinger

Native American Exhibit Committee: Anne Belanger

Executive Director Report: Christine Witulski

Governance Committee: Election of Trustees:

Governance Committee recommends the following candidates for a three-year term ending June 30, 2020.

Incumbent Board Members: Ann Diamond, Anne Belanger, Greg Resnick, Don MacMaster

New Board Members: John Caplis, Jim Conboy

Annual Membership Meeting Adjourn

Besser Museum Founders Society Annual Membership Meeting called to order:

Light refreshments will be served immediately following the meeting.

BIOS of NEW CANDIDATES

Candidate, John Caplis, John graduated from the University of Michigan with a bachelor's degree in Education in 1999 and accepted a teaching position at Alpena High School in 2000. John also has a Master's in education from Spring Arbor University. John has taught a variety of courses at AHS including Astronomy, Earth and Space, U.S. History, World History and Current Events. In 2011, he joined Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Education Steering Committee. Through his involvement with Thunder Bay, he created an earth science elective to teach Alpena's youth about the sanctuary and its mission. This course, Shipwreck Alley: Shipwrecks, Science, and the Marine Sanctuary, was recently recognized by the Michigan Department of Education as a model for integrated instruction. Shipwreck Alley students have also joined with the Association of Lifelong Learners and the Besser Museum to help with development of the Katherine V exhibit. In the winter, John runs the Ski and Snowboard club for Alpena High and Thunder Bay Junior High.

John serves as a firefighter and medical first responder for the Alpena Township Fire Department. He began working for the Chelsea Fire Department in 1996, while in college, and is trained in Firefighting, EMS, Hazmat Operations, Ice Rescue, and Rapid Intervention.

John and his wife Laura have three children. The family loves to spend time skiing, hiking, swimming, and playing games. The kids also love to spend time exploring the museum.

Candidate, Jim Conboy, a resident of Cheboygan, is a retired banker and lawyer. He is a past CEO of Citizens National Bank, and past chairman of the Michigan Bankers Association. Jim currently serves on several boards including the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, the Top of Michigan Trails Council, and the Cheboygan Communities Foundation. He is a member of Rotary. Jim is a trustee emeritus of Alma College having served on that board for twelve years. He is married to Susan Conboy, they have three children, and six grandchildren. He has a B.A. from Oakland University and a J.D. from Wayne State University Law School.