

Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan Board of Trustees Meeting
AGENDA

Tuesday, September 20, 2022 @ 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: Mike Beaulac, Claudia Chapman, Tuffy Cross, Gary Goren, Jim Johnson, Michelle Miller, Sue Stender, Judy Suszek, Janet Young, Ashley Peterson, Jim Conboy, Dan Florip

Others Present: Executive Director Chris Witulski

Absent: As

1) Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:31pm by President Michelle Miller.

2) Review August 16, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes for approval (action item)

Board minutes from August 2022 were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes with support. All in favor. Motion carried.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT:

a. Treasurer's report on August 2022 financials.

4) Reports to the Board:

a) DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

A full report was submitted and is accessible online at the museum website.

a. Museum staff members were introduced to the current Board of Trustees.

b. Capital Project updates:

i. Meridian: Exterior Project: Currently parts of the concrete at the front approach to the museum are being poured. Furniture storage is moving into a new storage area. The former furniture storage will be repurposed for Christmas exhibit items.

ii. HVAC: New chiller installation: The control for one of the values for the chiller controller system needs to be replaced. The part has been ordered and will be completed in a timely manner.

c. Planetarium Projector: Replacing the projector would be expensive, however the board may consider planning for replacement. If the backup system were to fail, the planetarium would be in a bind and need to find a long-term solution. Johnathan is working with vendors now on potential replacements. Inquiries on whether current subscriptions/licensing for programs on projector would transfer to the new system.

b) AD HOC COMMITTEES:

• GOVERNANCE REPORT:

- December is voting for the new Executive Board members. Voting on five positions within our October meeting. Judy shared the need for multiple positions, including the Vice President and 2nd vice president. Board members can contact Judy with interest in a position.
- The Board is at 12 members and needs to recruit at least 3 new members. Twelve is the minimum membership for the board.
- GREAT LAKES FISHERIES HERITAGE EXHIBIT:
 - a. Chinook Project: Jim Johnson report including discussion on the progression on signage for this exhibit.
 - i. Huron Engineering is doing the first phase of the project, which includes preparing a topographic survey, site design, geotechnical services, foundation design, and bidding services. The anticipated timeline for the bids will be October 2022. We hope to break ground in April
 - ii. Besser Museum was approved for a Huron Pines AmeriCorp worker in 2023. The focus of their work would be on the Great Lakes Fisheries exhibit and costs would be covered by the grant.
 - b. Katherine V: Tuffy Cross reported on working with volunteers to build a roof on the Katherine V pole barn.
- DISCOVER NORTHEAST MICHIGAN HISTORY: Grant announcements, including funding award by grant type were shared with the board. The fundraising brochure was updated today and will be printed shortly. The timeline for this exhibit would begin with the current exhibit being dismantled in January 2023.
- FINE ART COMMITTEE: Brian Schorn will be setting the exhibit.
- COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE: Artifact accession proposal: Sarah presented on the artifacts accession proposal. Motion to accept the items presented with support. All in favor. Motion carried.

5) Old Business:

- a. The Founder's Society is a separate 501(c)3. The remaining two active board members have proposed to disband and relinquish their non-profit status.

6) New Business

None.

7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Ashley Peterson
 Acting Board Secretary