

**Besser Museum for Northeast Michigan  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 17, 2020**

**Present:** John Caplis, Claudia Chapman, Jim Conboy, Clarence Cross, Ann Diamond, Jim Johnson, Michelle Miller, Gregg Resnick, Sue Stender, Judy Suszek, Janet Young and Executive Director Chris Witulski

**Absent:** Heidi Haaxma, Kristen Sharpe, Diane Speer, Anne Belanger, Mike Ableidinger

Meeting called to order at 4:40 p.m. by President Jim Conboy

**Minutes:** Janet Young moved to accept the January 28, 2020 Minutes, supported by Tuffy Cross. All ayes. Motion carried.

Chris Witulski reviewed decision to close Museum due to Coronavirus and to hold board meeting by audio participation for same reason. Governor subsequently ordered public places closed. Chris advised the Board she is working on a newspaper article advising the public of the closing and that she and staff continue to work on projects while Museum is closed to public.

**Treasurer's Report:** Chelsea Meeder, CPA from SKL joined via phone and reviewed the firm's audit of the Museum's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2019. Ms. Meeder summarized the audit as having a "clean opinion."

**New Business:**

Chris reported on the \$25,000 gift from the Besser Foundation for the purchase of portable display walls which will permit the Museum to display more of the art collections.

The Board Retreat workshop review set forth in the agenda will be postponed to a later in person meeting due to the difficulty of having the necessary interaction between board members over the phone. For the same reason the Strategic Plan review was postponed.

**Old Business:**

Chris gave an update on the status of the R.S. Scott report re major renovations to the Museum building estimating the cost to be \$1.5 million. Chris will request Susan Edwards of the firm to present the report at a later meeting.

There being no further business, President, Jim Conboy called for a motion to adjourn at 5:30 p.m. Claudia Chapman moved the adjournment and the vote was unanimously approved.

**The next meeting is April 21, 2020.**

Respectfully submitted, Jim Conboy