Minutes
Board Meeting
Siouxland Heritage Museums
Thursday, November 5, 2020, 11:30 AM
Conference Room, Irene Hall Museum Resource Center, 4300 N. Westport Avenue

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

Board Absent: Pat Starr, Kim Koblank, Allison Struck, Jerry Beckler

Others in attendance: Bill Hoskins,

Tim Schendel called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM.

Minutes of the October 1 meeting were approved as published.

There was no public input.

Greg Olsen delivered a brief report on the Siouxland Heritage Museums Alliance. He mentioned that the Woodlawn by Lantern Program October 22, 23, 24 sold out. $3612 in tickets were sold. The next meeting of the Alliance Board is scheduled for Thursday, November 12. The Alliance is planning for next year.

Dianne Metli delivered the report for the Museum Collections Committee. The minutes of the meeting were provided to the Board electronically in advance. (See Below) Dianne moved that the Board accept the recommendations of the Collections Committee. Jeff seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote.

“Minutes Museum Board Collections Committee, Siouxland Heritage Museums, Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 11:02 AM. Meeting at the Irene Hall Museum Resource Center. Present were Kim Koblank, Liz Squyer, Dianne Metli, Greg Olson, Bill Hoskins, Museum Director; Jessie Nesseim, Curator of Collections

Jessie Nesseim, Curator of Collections delivered a brief update on the progress for the movement of the Museum Collection. Jessie commented about the Library, Ethnographic and Art Collections. Storage furniture has been one of the holdups for movement. The Library is just about completed with the exception of the bound newspapers. Jessie discussed some of the history and challenges for the
newspaper collection. The ethnographic collection is awaiting the delivery of new shelving being purchased by the Museum Alliance. Once the new shelving is in place the rest of the collection will be moved from the basement vault at the Old Courthouse Museum.

Bill and Jessie discussed upcoming changes to the Past Perfect collections management database. Jessie has worked with County IT and Past Perfect to check out this new system. It has approved the transition which should help overall network speed, address some aging software issues and provide for better staff and public accessibility to the information. The transition should occur in early January 2021.

The committee walked through the textile and large store room at the Museum Resource Center and reviewed the damaged, broken objects and duplicate items being considered for de-accession. Kim Koblank moved to recommend to the Museum Board the de-accession of the list of artifacts prepared by Jessie. Liz Squyer seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote. Dianne moved to authorize the re-designation/transfer of some accessioned artifacts to non-accessioned research/education status. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed on vote.

The committee toured the ethnographic storage and discussed the architectural drawings collections donated in 2020. The committee adjourned at 12:05 PM."

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director, delivered a financial update to the board regarding Museum budget balances as of November 2, 2020.

Bill Hoskins, Museum Director delivered a report on the Museum Operation over the last month. Highlights include: Installation of a new exhibit to open at the Pettigrew Home and Museum scheduled to open the beginning of December. The Woodlawn By Lantern Tour was sold out, but many choose not to attend due to the snow and rain. Staff is looking ahead to the fall and planning programming to be featured in the November/December Museum’s Report. Bill discussed several building projects including upgraded track lighting in one of the exhibit galleries at the Old Courthouse Museum. Tuckpointing at the Old Courthouse Museum and the replacement of window lintels at the Pettigrew Home and Museum. Roger Buechler reported on the Collections project of surveying the firearms collection at the Museum Resource Center. Staff and volunteers are conducting examinations, cleaning and completing condition reports on the Firearms.

Bill provided a brief update on the Annual Meeting of the Mountain Plains Museum Association which is scheduled to meeting in Sioux Falls October 5-8, 2021. Planning for the live meeting continues.

The board discussed the December Board Meeting and decided to hold a meeting via zoom on December 3 at 11:30 AM.
The meeting was adjourned at 11:58.

The next Museum Board Meeting will be Thursday, December 3, 2020, 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”