

Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum Governing Board meeting minutes 6/15/2023

In attendance: president Brucie Connell, member Sabina Damone, museum educator Jennifer Romanoski, guest Sharon Miller (via zoom), vice president Craig Cope, museum assistant Kelsey McDonnell, museum director Sylvia Bruner, and Peder Schaefer from the *Buffalo Bulletin*.

Meeting called to order by Connell at 3:04

Old Business:

Connell called to approve May meeting minutes, Cope so moved, Sabina seconded, all approved.

June financial report. Discussion included a question from Connell about the forest service grant income. Bruner explained that we will start submitting bills for reimbursements from the approved \$10k.

Bruner explained why the ad budget was so high... We did not receive any monies from the JCTA this year. They denied our application and said that they did so because they believed we "had enough money" and also that our application didn't fit their parameters. Ad costs included the summer vista, Gillette news and record, KOA and rack card distribution.

Cope made a motion to approve the June Treasurer's Report, motion seconded by Damone, approved unanimously.

Further financial discussion was held and Miller shared her charts regarding income/expenses. The museum is down compared to prior years for monies received from Johnson County for this FY. We are only at 67% of our budget being received and only have one month to go before the end of the FY. Bruner brought up that it is still confusing with what appears to be additional/future years tax monies we are receiving.

Meeting minutes were signed.

The July meeting will be moved to 7/27 due to scheduling conflicts. Bruner will put an ad in the paper and notify the commissioners.

Policy review. Bruner noted that the board is due to review current policies and suggested that we create a gift acceptance policy to handle offers for donations, i.e. the cemetery plot conundrum. This policy needs to include parameters for accepting gifts to be sure it fits our mission and we can realize the 'gift'.

Director's report June 2023

- Kelsey and Jenn received a grant from WCF for \$1,059 to help cover the paper costs of the Thomas exhibit
- Programming: Friday, June 23 at 2:00 we are hosting speaker and author Michael Amundsen about his newest book, Merritt Dana Houghton. We are arranging to host Sam Mihara again in September (probably Tuesday, September 12). Cemetery tours are scheduled for August 9-12

and 16-19. Art Museum Monday kicked off with a great start and nice coverage in the *Buffalo Bulletin*.

- Strategic Plan: task list/review: nonprofit status and endowment fund
- Malcolm Wallop Civic Engagement Program: Wilderness Act content is live and done.
- CVC fundraising springtacular: April 5, May 3, May 31. The third session was good – featuring Ann Ruble and Vickery Hall. I will try to type up notes from the sessions as there were a number of items that I think we should be doing or doing differently.
- The *Sentry*: next issue articles are due and queued up. Kelsey and I are developing a system for subscriptions. Karen Blaney has agreed to be a guest author in a future issue. Please remember to visit/solicit guest articles whenever appropriate.
- Carnegie building: I am still waiting on Scott Loken to provide me with the phased/sectioned plan and pricing.
- Carnegie building fundraising: We currently have received over \$13,000 for the matching effort. \$11,000 has come in directly to the fundraiser and another \$1990 is from the JoAnn Mulcahy memorial donations.
- IMLS money Where does it go? Bruner asked the board what they want done with the IMLS prize money of \$10k. She offered two ideas #1 Carnegie fund #2 wisdom council. Craig suggested that the money be used for travel to D.C. it was decided to hold the fund until we knew if travel would be covered.

Nicole Etchemedy is doing some social media work for the museum pro bono

Wyoming public radio featured the museum on a 6/14 episode

3:44 Connell called for an executive session, so the normal meeting was temporarily adjourned, Damone moved, and Cope approved.

Executive session was called and all but board members and director left the meeting.

Minutes recorded by Kelsey McDonnell to this point.

4:09 the executive session was ended and the normal meeting resumed.

Brucie entertained a motion to sever the relationship between the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum and the Gatchell Museum Association/Foundation. Discussion ensued with specific note made of item #3. In the MOU: *This MOU shall commence upon the day and date last signed and executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties to this MOU and shall remain in full force and effect until terminated by either party. This MOU may be terminated, without cause, by any party upon thirty (30) days' written notice, which notices shall be delivered by hand or by certified mail. This MOU may be terminated immediately for cause if either party fails to perform in accordance with the terms of this MOU.*

The motion to sever the relationship between the Jim Gatchell Memorial Museum and the Gatchell Museum Association/Foundation was made by Cope, seconded by Damone, unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 4:30

Respectfully submitted, Sylvia Bruner