

BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Present: S. Richardson (Chairperson), J. Tong (Vice-Chairperson), D. Carlson (Secretary), K. Schmeling, M.C. Mueller, K. Scharra-Eraqi, Rachel Patterson, D. Callihan (non-voting), City Council Liaison S. Baker

Absent: W. Mathis (Treasurer/non-voting), J. Cauley, Glenn Rubright, S. Hansen (non-voting)

Guests: Tom Tesnow and Son

1. The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:05 pm. It was noted that Waneta Mathis and Shirley Hansen were absent on account of Covid related protocols of their residential community. S. Richardson called for possible amendments to the meeting agenda. J. Tong requested that Tom Tesnow's presentation be moved to the top of the agenda and also to add discussion of "The Museum Corner" financing to the 'new business' portion of the agenda. The requested changes were made. S. Richardson called for a motion to approve the meeting's agenda as amended. K. Schmeling made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda as amended. K. Scharra-Eraqi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.
2. S. Richardson called for citizen comments. Warren citizen Tom Tesnow presented to the Committee a proposal for the authoring and printing of a 6.5" x 9.5" catalog to be produced in cooperation with the Berkley Historical Committee in observance of the City's 100th anniversary of its incorporation as a village. Ideas for possible content included a crossword puzzle, a listing of past and present businesses located within the city limits, and a "Did You Know?" style article featuring facts about the city and its history. Numerous other content ideas were put forth. The date of April 1, 2023 was cited as the deadline for the submission of all content. Tesnow noted his company's intention to harvest all of the catalog's advertising and finance the printing. J. Tong made a motion that the Berkley Historical Museum produce in cooperation with Tom Tesno's City Anniversary Corporation a 6.5" x 9.5" catalog in observance of the City's 100th anniversary of its incorporation as a village. R. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.

3. City Council Liaison S. Baker reported details of the Council's recent work, including difficulties related to recent marijuana dispensary licensure decisions. Also noted was the Council's upcoming consideration of the applications of non-voting Historical Committee members seeking to become voting members. It will take place in February.
4. S. Richardson called for possible corrections to the minutes for the November 9th, 2021 meeting of the Committee. Multiple Committee members stated that Glenn Rubright was present. R. Patterson stated that Underground Printing is an "online" company, not "local". D. Carlson stated his intention to make the suggested edits. M.C. Mueller made a motion to approve as amended the minutes of the November 9th, 2021 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee. K. Scharra-Eraqi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** J. Tong reported, in place of Treasurer W. Mathis, a prior balance of \$19,578.28, income of \$1,150.00 in retail sales at the Museum and the Public Library and \$130.83 in royalties from sales of the "Berkley" book, expenditures of \$840.61 on shelving for the Museum's upstairs storage area, \$70.00 to Print Stop, and \$442.72 for a new batch of Christmas ornaments, with a resulting balance of \$19,505.78.
6. **Curator's Report:** J. Tong requested that Committee members double check the Coolidge door of the Museum when closing as its lock has lately been malfunctioning. J. Tong also stated that at this and future Committee meetings Museum service sign-up and determination of the next Committee meeting date will be incorporated into the Curator's Report portion of the meeting. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around. Tuesday, February 8th was reported as the Committee's next meeting date. Also noted was the recent discovery among the Museum's stored holdings a cache of historical slides that S. Baker intends to scan for the Museum's usage. Donations to the Museum were reported: a collection of approximately 90 'Golden Books' from Edie Watson and a variety of items regarding Berkley history from the widower of Carol Ring including cassette recordings of interviews with Berkley citizens, Berkeley Days and Vinsetta Garage memorabilia and microfilm rolls with unknown contents. J. Tong made a motion to accept these donations to the Museum. D. Carlson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion. J. Tong encouraged Committee

members to spend time, when volunteering at the Museum, cataloging and storing in boxes disorganized items in the upstairs storage area. He also suggested that the Chamber of Commerce is where the Committee should focus its efforts to find outside financing for the publication of our monthly newsletter, "The Museum Corner".

7. D. Callihan reported no returned calls regarding his inquiries into the Angell School historical marker project further suggesting that no author for the historical marker has yet been selected. S. Baker stated his intention to inquire with Berkley School's Superintendent Scott Francis at the following day's Downtown Development Authority meeting. The subject was tabled until the next meeting.
8. D. Callihan requested of Committee members suggestions for graphics to be incorporated into the Committee's proposed uniforms and noted Pine State Enterprises as possible makers. D. Callihan also stated his preference for polo style shirts rather than t-shirts. S. Richardson asked that women's sizes be included. D. Carlson and D. Callihan volunteered to work on the development of a suitable graphic for use on Committee uniforms.
9. S. Richardson solicited opinions of Committee members regarding the Museum's Christmas Shopping event. There was a general consensus among those who volunteered during the event that it was successful and that the Museum should participate in the future. S. Richardson noted the work of Mike McGuinness as a factor contributing to the event's success.
10. The possibility of creating Committee by-laws was again discussed. J. Tong and K. Scharra-Eraqi stated their opinion that they're unnecessary. R. Patterson expressed concern that bylaws might invite nuisances. The subject was again tabled for further discussion at future meetings.
11. The online presence of the Committee and Museum were again discussed. D. Carlson stated his opinion that migrating the Museum's Facebook 'page' to a 'group' would result in more community interaction. J. Tong stated his intention to discuss the feasibility of

such a move with the City's Community Engagement Officer Torri Mathes and share his findings at the next meeting.

- 12.** R. Patterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:22 pm. K. Scharra-Eraqi seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.