

## BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

**Present:** S. Richardson (Chairperson), J. Tong (Vice-Chairperson), D. Carlson (Secretary), G. Rubright, M.C. Mueller, D. Callihan, S. Hansen, K. Schmeling, D. Bennoune, R. Patterson, S. Patterson, K. Grimm, C. Black (membership pending), City Council Liaison S. Baker

**Absent:** W. Mathis (Treasurer/non-voting), K. Scharra-Eraqi

1. The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:03 pm. S. Richardson called for additions to the agenda. None were put forth. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda. K. Schmeling seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion. No citizen comments were made.
  
2. **City Council Liaison Report:** City Council Liaison Steve Baker spoke on a number of issues:
  - a. The July 5th meeting of the City Council was largely procedural. New Dept. of Public Safety officers were sworn in. Plans for *County Oakland Irish Fest* in September were approved.
  - b. The new *Berkley Farmers Market* at Robina and 12 Mile will be open on Thursdays from 9 am to 3 pm from now until October 26th.
  - c. Requested the Committee stock the *Oakland History Gazette Newsletter* at the Museum.
  - d. Donated to the Committee the official City Council proclamation declaring May 2023 as *Berkley History Month*.
  - e. Donated for the uses of the Committee Mary Hughes' 2007 Roseland Park Cemetery Tour files.
  
3. There was a short discussion of the new Farmers Market. S. Hansen stated that there was no produce available for sale during her last visit. R. Patterson described the city's plan to grow the Market over future months and to eventually include produce sellers. D. Callihan noted the lack of produce products currently in season as a contributing factor.

4. S. Richardson called for possible corrections to the minutes for the May 9th, 2023 meeting of the Committee. None were put forth. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9th, 2023 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee. R. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

5. **Treasurer's Report:** S. Hansen reported, in place of Treasurer W. Mathis, a prior balance of \$14,779.94. Expenditures and income are enumerated below:

<b>a. Expenditures:</b>	<u>NONE.....</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>b. Income:</b>	<u>Berkley Public Library sales.....</u>	<u>\$70.00</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70.00</b>

\$14,849.94 was reported as the month ending balance.

J. Tong reported an upcoming deposit of Museum sales and donations income.

6. **Curator's Report:** J. Tong reported on the healing of his knee after his recent replacement operation and thanked his fellow Committee members for their assistance. No Museum business was reported on account of his recuperation.

7. There was discussion of the Committee's involvement in various City events.

**a. Berkley Days:** S. Richardson asked for opinions on the viability of our Committee's location within the Berkley Days festival grounds, citing weak retail sales, and whether we should continue participating. There was a general consensus that our participation should continue, but also that an outdoor location would be preferred next year. J. Tong noted that Berkley Days hours may be shortened next year, and also, that this year's Berkley Days payout to the Committee will likely be lessened due to anticipated higher security costs for next year's event. R. Patterson acknowledged and thanked J. Tong for his contributions to the organization and funding of the very successful fireworks display at this year's event.

- b. Committee Event Tent:** The poor condition of the Committee's tent used for participation in various events was noted. D. Carlson volunteered to donate a similar, nearly new model for the Committee's future use.
  - c. Rogers School Visits:** Numerous Committee members reported the annual Rogers School student visits to the Museum as fun and successful.
  - d. Art Bash:** S. Richardson suggested that the first-time \$50 participation fee for this year's event appeared to be worth it based on our sales. There was a general agreement with this sentiment. R. and S. Patterson donated to the Committee two storage bins and various other items used at Berkley Days, for use at future events in which the Committee participates.
  - e. Memorial Day:** D. Carlson and S. Richardson reported a successful Memorial Day observance at the City Hall gazebo, but D. Carlson also stated that the sound amplification was lacking and could be improved at future Memorial Day events. J. Tong suggested that the Memorial Day opening of the Museum be mentioned at future Memorial Day addresses, since so many locals are present in such close proximity. D. Carlson stated his intention to look into portable amplification options for the Committee's consideration at a future meeting.
- 8. Historical Markers:** D. Callihan reported a successful unveiling ceremony for the Angell School historical marker that took place on Friday, May 19th. D. Carlson offered some constructive criticisms and suggestions for improvement of similar future events. D. Carlson also reported another delay in the delivery of the Village Hall historical marker. Anticipated delivery date is now August or September. There was a general consensus to move the marker's unveiling ceremony to October, date to be determined. C. Black recommended that the Detroit Lions home game on October 8th be considered when setting the date.
- 9. "Berkley Home" plaques:** The date we open sales of the house plaques was discussed. R. Patterson asserted the Committee's ability to start sales immediately or closer to the date of the planned Kit Home Tour in September. D. Callihan made a motion that "Berkley Home" plaque sales begin immediately. S. Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. R. Patterson stated

her intention to put out a press release promoting plaque sales in the coming weeks. Orders will be taken in person at the Museum only.

- 10. Time Capsule:** J. Tong reported that items for insertion are currently being collected. A second meeting of the Time Capsule Committee was requested and scheduled. A change of the Capsule interment date to October, to accompany the unveiling of the Village Hall historical marker, was announced.
- 11. Smocks/Uniforms/Museum Patch:** S. Richardson & M.C. Mueller passed around a printed example and size guide for their suggested garment, a baby blue vest that the manufacturer inaccurately describes as “navy”. D. Callihan made a motion that the Committee purchase one medium, one large, one extra large and one double extra large vest in the manufacturer’s “navy” blue for the examination of the Committee at a future meeting. D. Carlson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.
- 12. Gifts to the Museum:** J. Tong reported one recent gift to the Museum: *Baker’s Drug Store* stationary, donated by George Nagher. D. Carlson stated his intention to send a “thank you” letter to the donor. J. Tong made a motion to officially accept the donation. D. Callihan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.
- 13. Berkley Pride Day:** R. Patterson made a motion that the Committee participate in the Berkley Pride Day event celebrating local LGBTQ pride and history on Sunday, June 25th in the 12 Mile/Robina St parking lot. S. Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. Volunteers were requested. J. Tong, R. Patterson, S. Patterson, C. Black and D. Carlson all volunteered to staff the Committee’s tent. R. Patterson also presented an article regarding local LGBTQ history, for use in online and print promotions of the event.
- 14. Berkley Kit Home Tour:** Tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.
- 15. Roseland Park Cemetery Tour:** Tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.

- 16. Berkley Theater anniversary event:** Tabled for further discussion at the next meeting.
  
- 17.** S. Richardson noted yet another occurrence of the Village Hall Museum entrance being found unlocked upon arrival for a volunteer shift and asked that all Committee members pay extra attention to locking this door in the future. A new style of lock was considered. S. Richardson and S. Baker stated their intention to explore security options with city administrators in the coming months.
  
- 18.** S. Richardson reported Tuesday, July 11th as the date of the next Committee meeting. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around.
  
- 19.** S. Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:31 pm. D. Callihan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.