

## **BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2023

**Present:** S. Richardson (Chairperson), J. Tong (Vice-Chairperson), D. Carlson (Secretary), M.C. Mueller, D. Callihan, S. Hansen, K. Grimm, G. Rubright, R. Patterson, S. Patterson, C. Black, J. Harlan (membership pending), City Council Liaison S. Baker, Five Berkley High School Students (non-voting)

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

1. The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:07 pm. C. Black introduced to the Committee five members of the Berkley High School Social Studies Club.
2. S. Richardson called for additions to the agenda. D. Callihan asked that discussion of the creation of Berkley Historical Museum memberships be added. C. Black asked that discussion of possible Historical Committee-sponsored volunteer opportunities for Berkley High School students be added. S. Richardson added the items to the agenda. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda as amended. R. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.
3. **Citizen Comments:** Representing the Berkley High School Social Studies Club, Ella Pochron asked the Committee to state their mission and also expressed their group's interest in developing a Museum volunteer program for interested Berkley High Schoolers. Multiple Committee members enumerated Committee responsibilities. There was a general consensus that a volunteer program will be developed and further discussed at future meetings.
4. **City Council Liaison Report:** City Council Liaison S. Baker reported on a number of issues.
  - a. Further description of Berkley Historical Committee work for the benefit of the Berkley High School Social Studies Club members in attendance.
  - b. Congratulations to C. Black on his recent election to the Berkley City Council.
  - c. Thank you to city clerk's office and R. Patterson specifically for their work on recent election.

- d. Recent City Council negotiations regarding a possible two-story multi-family development on Coolidge Hwy north of 11 Mile.
  - e. City Council's possible issuance of additional extensions to two prospective marijuana shops whose prior six-month extensions have already expired.
  - f. Development of ordinance addressing future pet stores and possible ordinance development addressing present PuppyGram store.
  - g. DDA-sponsored Holiday events:
    - i. Holiday Lights Parade: Sat., Dec. 2nd
    - ii. Merry & Bright Shopping Nights: Thursdays, Dec. 7th, 14th and 21st
    - iii. Jolly Trolley: Sat., Dec. 9th
  - h. Downtown/12-Mile 'Social District' soft launch and upcoming official launch.
  - i. Gifts to the Committee:
    - i. Nip & Tuck business cards
    - ii. Berkley history book
    - iii. Photos of 2008 event at the Fire Hall
5. Berkley High Students expressed their appreciation and exited the meeting.
6. **Prior Meeting's Minutes:** S. Richardson recommended a rewrite of bullet point #12 and called for possible other corrections to the minutes for the October 3rd, 2023 meeting of the Committee. No additional corrections were recommended. D. Carlson stated his intention to make the correction to bullet point #12. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 3rd, 2023 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee as amended. D. Callihan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** S. Hansen reported, in place of Treasurer W. Mathis, a prior balance of \$12,737.09. Expenditures and income are enumerated below:

<b>a. Expenditures:</b>	July/Aug. Credit Card Fees.....	\$84.90
	Michigan Graphics (printing).....	\$140.00
	S. Hansen reimbursement (cupcakes).....	\$104.85
	<u>J. Tong reimbursement (magnets).....</u>	<u>\$157.82</u>

	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$487.57</b>
<b>b. Income:</b>	<u>Berkley Library/Museum Sales.....</u>	<u>\$885.00</u>
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$885.00</b>

\$13,134.52 was reported as the month ending balance.

**8. Curator's Report:** J. Tong reported on just a few matters.

- a. Working with M. Baumgarten and A. Brown to create handicapper parking spot on side of Village Hall for Museum visitors.
- b. Working with A. Brown to develop plaza and seating area directly in front of the new Village Hall historical marker.
- c. Handed out invitations for the 2023 Berkley Kit Home Tour Reception on Nov. 15th at the Museum.
- d. Berkley Days payout still forthcoming, pending spending decisions regarding possible additional security considerations for the 2024 event.

**9. Pattengill School Historical Marker:** D. Callihan reported that the dedication date is being considered and will be announced soon. Update to be given at next meeting.

**10. "Berkley Home" plaques:** J. Tong reported that 22 plaques were recently picked up and that sales now total around 50.

**11. S. Richardson solicited opinions on the recent historical marker and time capsules unveiling events.** There was a general consensus that the events were successful despite inclement weather that hampered attendance. R. Patterson noted the posting of a video of the event on YouTube:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlcX0G6AwHQ&ab\\_channel=CityofBerkley](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GlcX0G6AwHQ&ab_channel=CityofBerkley). R. Paterson also noted the success of the Boo-kley Days event despite poor weather, and that a massive turnout necessitates moving all of the Museum's candy dispensing activities to the outside of the building in subsequent years.

- 12. Archive Scanning Project:** J. Tong asked for volunteers for a new project of scanning/digitizing the Museum's printed holdings and also suggested this might be a good project for Berkley High School volunteers. New acquisitions from the First Methodist Church have necessitated the project and other churches will be asked to contribute. D. Callihan recommended that all future scans of Museum holdings be made in a searchable PDF format. S. Hansen stated that First Methodist will be adding to their recent donation of archives, mostly on account of the fact that the materials are better cared for at the Museum.
- 13.** S. Richardson called for volunteers for Museum holiday decorating on Nov. 26th and Museum staffing on the evening of the Holiday Lights Parade on Dec. 2nd. Numerous Committee members volunteered.
- 14. Museum Memberships:** D. Callihan floated the idea of creating Museum membership plans as a way of increasing Museum awareness, interaction and fundraising. R. Patterson asked for a comparison to similar programs at the museums of neighboring communities. D. Callihan stated his intention to develop a comparison and a presentation of his findings at an upcoming meeting and asked for the formation of a sub-committee and volunteers. K. Grimm, S. Richardson and J. Harlan volunteered.
- 15. Tabled for discussion at future meetings:** Roseland Park Cemetery Tour, Smocks/Uniforms/Museum Patch, Gifts to the Museum.
- 16.** The date of the next Committee meeting was announced: Tuesday, January 9th. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around.
- 17. Good & Welfare:** Further congratulations were offered to Committee member Clarence Black who was recently elected to the Berkley City Council. Clarence's election precludes him from continued service on the Committee and a hearty farewell was offered all around.
- 18.** D. Carlson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:34 pm. S. Hansen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.