

BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024

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

Absent: W. Mathis (Treasurer/non-voting), City Council Liaison S. Baker

1. The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:00 pm.
2. S. Richardson called for additions to the agenda. D. Callihan requested that discussion of the Berkley Historical Museum Membership program be added. S. Richardson added the item to the agenda. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda as amended. M.C. Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion. There were no citizen comments made.
3. **City Council Liaison Report:** S. Baker was absent. Liaison report tabled until next meeting.
4. **Prior Meeting's Minutes:** S. Richardson called for possible corrections to the minutes for the January 9th, 2024 meeting of the Committee. K. Grimm recommended a correction to bullet point #10. D. Carlson stated his intention to make the requested correction. No additional corrections were recommended. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 9th, 2024 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee as amended. 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 \$13,470.78. Expenditures and income are enumerated below:

a. Expenditures:	J. Tong Reimbursement.....	\$47.34
	<u>Hunt Sign Co.</u>	<u>\$75.00</u>

	TOTAL	\$122.34
b. Income:		
	Berkley History Book Royalties.....	\$121.54
	Berkley Days Income.....	\$1,500.00
	<u>Berkley Library/Museum Sales.....</u>	<u>\$55.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$1,676.54

\$15,024.98 was reported as the month ending balance.

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

- a. The Committee's 2023 Berkley Days payout was reduced to \$1,500.00 on account of additional security needed for the 2024 event, some of which will be financed with the income from the 2023 event.
- b. A new portable wall for Museum exhibit and event display has been purchased. A second identical wall was recommended for future purchase.
- c. The Michigan Historical Society Magazine is now available at the Museum.
- d. The historic replica light fixtures intended to flank the Coolidge Street entrance to the Museum have been ordered. R. Patterson reported that they arrived today.
- e. The Museum's featured exhibit for March 2024 will showcase the life and times of Maybelle Fraser, a former Berkley Mayor, City Councilperson and long-time citizen activist who recently died at the age of 91. The Fraser family has loaned numerous family artifacts for the Museum display, and Fraser will be posthumously honored by the Berkley City Council at their upcoming meeting on March 4th.
- f. There were no new donations to the Museum.

7. D. Callihan made a motion to purchase a second portable wall with Committee funds. S. Hansen seconded the motion. There was a short discussion followed by a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Pattengill School Historical Marker: D. Callihan reported a possible dedication date of May 14th, immediately preceding a PTA meeting at the school, though the date is still being discussed. Update to be given at a future meeting.

9. “Berkley Home” plaques: J. Tong reported that orders for home plaques are now closed and that they will be offered for sale again in a year or two.

10. Museum Memberships: D. Callihan passed around a handout detailing his Museum Membership program proposals specifying annual membership dues of \$10 and it was discussed at length. D. Callihan made a motion that the Committee undertake a Museum Membership program as described in his proposal handout. J. Tong seconded the motion. More discussion ensued. D. Carlson made a friendly amendment that creation and issuance of a membership card be included in the initial benefits for dues-paying members. K. Grimm seconded the friendly amendment and D. Callihan agreed to it. The motion as amended passed unanimously without further discussion. D. Callihan volunteered to serve as the director of the Membership program moving forward, to which the Committee agreed.

11. High School Volunteer Project: D. Carlson reported that the Berkley High School Volunteer program is running smoothly with one or two volunteers serving each Sunday for a few weeks on end. D. Callihan reported his work with a few of the volunteers, instructing them on using the Royal Oak Daily Tribune’s online archive to find and collect historically significant newspaper clippings on behalf of the Museum. J. Tong suggested that our current Berkley High School volunteers be organized for service to the 2024 Berkley Days event. D. Carlson stated his intention to develop an offshoot of the current program and organize such an effort.

12. 2024 Berkley Art Bash: S. Richardson announced a 2024 Berkley Art Bash date of Saturday, June 8th and a newly increased participation fee of \$100.00 for organizations that make retail sales at their kiosks. Opinions on the Committee’s willingness to expend these funds were solicited. Discussion ensued. J. Tong made a motion to expend \$100.00 of Committee funds to participate in the 2024 Berkley Art Bash. K. Grimm seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. K. Grimm stated a need for a larger tent for future Committee participation in the Art Bash and other community events. S. Hansen made a motion that the Committee expend up

to \$300.00 for the acquisition of a new tent. R. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously after a short discussion.

- 13.** S. Richardson instructed Committee Members D. Carlson, K. Grimm, S. Hansen and D. Callihan to renew their soon-to-expire commissions should they choose to continue their Committee service. The resignation of former Committee member K. Scharra-Eraqi was also acknowledged.

- 14. Tabled for discussion at future meetings:** Roseland Park Cemetery Tour, Smocks/Uniforms/Museum Patch, Gifts to the Museum.

- 15.** The date of the next Committee meeting was announced: Tuesday, March 12th. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around.

- 16.** S. Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:59 pm. M.C. Mueller seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without discussion.