

BERKLEY HISTORICAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Present: S. Richardson (Chairperson), J. Tong (Vice-Chairperson), D. Carlson (Secretary), D. Callihan, S. Hansen, K. Grimm, G. Rubright, R. Patterson, J. Harlan (membership pending), D. Bennoune, City Council Liaison S. Baker, D. Downen (Berkley Days Committee Chair), L. Robbins (Berkley Days Committee Co-Chair)

Absent: K.Schmeling, W. Mathis (Treasurer/non-voting), S. Patterson, M.C. Mueller

1. The meeting was called to order by S. Richardson at 7:03 pm.
2. S. Richardson called for additions to the agenda. J. Tong recommended the removal of discussion of Berkley House plaques. K. Grimm requested discussion of the upcoming Berkley Pride Fest. R. Patterson requested discussion of Committee sales of prints of S. Patterson's Berkley-theme paintings. S. Richardson made the requested edits to the agenda. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the meeting's agenda as amended. G. Rubright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. There were no citizen comments made.
3. **City Council Liaison Report:** City Council Liaison S. Baker reported on a number of issues:
 - a. At the April 5th meeting of City Council an official proclamation was made declaring May "Berkley History Month". An official printed proclamation was passed around the meeting and gifted to the Committee.
 - b. Also at the April 5th meeting the transition of city managers was discussed. Nate Geinzer is serving as the interim City Manager until a permanent replacement for Matt Baumgarten is hired. A city-sponsored 'meet and greet' style event for possible candidates is being considered.
 - c. The city's recent budget hearing that took place on April 16th was completed in one session. An official public hearing regarding the proposed budget will be held on May 20th.
 - d. The next meeting of City Council will take place on May 6th.

- e. Four of the five marijuana shops licensed to operate in Berkley are now open.
- f. The latest issue of the Oakland County Gazette was passed around and gifted to the Committee.

4. Prior Meeting's Minutes: S. Richardson called for possible corrections to the minutes for the March 12th, 2024 meeting of the Committee and suggested that the word 'kiosk' be changed to 'booth' in bullet point #9. No other corrections were recommended. D. Carlson stated his intention to make the recommended edit. S. Hansen made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12th, 2024 meeting of the Berkley Historical Committee as amended. K. Grimm 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 \$14,101.34. Expenditures and income are enumerated below:

a. Expenditures:	<u>Print Stop.....</u>	<u>\$138.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$138.00
b. Income:	<u>Berkley Library/Museum Sales/Misc.....</u>	<u>\$630.00</u>
	TOTAL	\$630.00

\$14,593.34 was reported as the month ending balance.

6. Berkley Days: Berkley Days' Committee Chairperson Denise Downen and Co-Chair Leslie Robbins, as well as some Committee members, addressed the Committee on a number of points regarding the upcoming event on May 9th-12th:

- a. The 2024 event will feature numerous additional safety precautions including fencing around the event site, private security roving the grounds and stationed at three entry points, additional Berkley DPS patrols, a \$3 entry fee and wrist bands for entrants.
- b. Security and Berkley DPS officers will be enforcing a "zero tolerance" policy for disruptive and unruly behavior.

- c. A volunteer effort to staff the entrances is currently being undertaken that includes members of the Historical Committee and Berkley High School National Honor Society members.
- d. A volunteer orientation is scheduled for May 7th.
- e. Grounds capacity has been set at 3,360 people and entry points will be closed should this level of attendance occur.
- f. The Berkley Historical Committee booth will close at 9:00 pm on each evening of the event.
- g. J. Tong solicited volunteers for set-up on Thursday, May 9th. J. Harlan, K. Grimm and S. Patterson (via R. Patterson) volunteered.
- h. D. Carlson stated his intention to continue management of the Berkley High School National Honor Society volunteer program and to maintain communication with Downen and other Berkley Days officials.
- i. Denise can be contacted by email at denised1502@gmail.com with further questions.

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

- a. The newly installed lights at the Coolidge door of the Village Hall will be getting a timer adjustment. They're currently not turning on and off at the correct times.
- b. Cana Lutheran Church's archives and baptismal font have been donated to the Museum and are now part of our collection.
- c. J. Tong will be meeting Pattengill School alum and Broadway star Donna McKechnie in person on his next visit to New York City and will personally invite her to this fall's Pattengill School historical marker unveiling.
- d. Three gifts were made to the Museum in the last month:
 - i. Maybelle Fraser's bicycle, donated by Fraser's daughter.
 - ii. Two original paintings by S. Patterson that will be duplicated and sold as prints at the Museum and future events in which the Committee participates.
 - iii. Another row of original Berkley Theater seats, donated by Kurt Mayry.
- e. J. Tong made a motion to accept all new gifts to the Museum. R. Patterson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

- 8. Berkley-Themed Art Prints:** R. Patterson reported that prints of S. Patterson's two recently completed Berkley-themed paintings will be available for purchase at Berkley Days, Berkley Art Bash and Berkley Pride Fest. S. Patterson's original paintings are currently on public display in City Hall and have been donated to the Committee.
- 9. Pattengill School Historical Marker:** D. Callihan reported that the upcoming unveiling of the historical marker has been pushed back until the fall, to more closely match the school's actual 100th anniversary.
- 10. Village Hall Facade Renovation:** J. Tong has been in contact with Berkley Facilities Manager Alex Brown, and Brown has been in contact with interim City Manager N. Geinzer regarding renovation of the Village Hall facade. There has been a general agreement to improve its appearance but a course of action has yet to be determined. D. Callihan asked if it might be time for Committee members to start seeking grants to finance such an endeavor. The matter was tabled for further discussion at future meetings.
- 11. Museum Memberships:** D. Callihan reported little progress on his Museum Memberships project but did speak on the need for development of the clerical and bookkeeping aspects of the program; membership durations and expiration notices, for example. K. Grimm volunteered to develop an Excel spreadsheet to accurately track membership terms. S. Baker suggested that the Friends of the Berkley Library membership model be examined as a possible guide for membership terms. D. Callihan stated his intention to present new 'Museum Membership' proposals at the next meeting of the Committee.
- 12. Berkley Art Bash:** The date of the event was announced, June 8th. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be developed and passed around at the next meeting of the Committee.
- 13. Berkley Pride Fest:** The date of the event was announced, June 23rd. A \$50 fee will be required for participating groups this year. J. Tong made a motion that the Committee expend \$50 to participate in the 2024 Berkley Pride Fest; seconded by D. Bennoune.

The motion passed unanimously without further discussion. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be developed and passed around at the next meeting of the Committee.

14. Rogers School Visit: The annual Rogers School student visits to the museum will take place on May 17th beginning at 9:30 am. J. Tong solicited volunteers for the event. S. Richardson and R. Patterson volunteered.

15. Tabled for discussion at future meetings: Roseland Park Cemetery Tour, Smocks/Uniforms/Museum Patch.

16. Good & Welfare: M.C. Mueller was absent due to the recent death of her sister in Minnesota. Condolence messages can be sent to M.C. at her home address: 2800 Cummings, Berkley, MI 48072. S. Baker recommended a condolence card be sent by the Committee, collectively. K. Grimm stated his intention to execute that task.

17. The date and location of the next Committee meeting was announced: Tuesday, May 28th in the back conference room of City Hall. It was also announced that there will be no June meeting of the Committee. The Museum shift sign-up calendar was passed around.

18. S. Hansen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:31 pm. D. Carlson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.