

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY NEVILLE PUBLIC MUSEUM GOVERNING BOARD

Pursuant to Section 19.84, Wis. Stats., a meeting of the **Brown County Neville Public Museum Governing Board** was held at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, December 14, 2009, at the Neville Public Museum, 210 Museum Place, Green Bay, Wisconsin

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PRESENT: Kyle Hoops, Kathy Johnson, Robert Jossie, Kevin Kuehn, Kramer Rock

EXCUSED: Pat Wetzel, Adam Warpinski

ALSO

PRESENT: Gene Umberger, Jill Champeau, Becky McKee

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1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Kuehn called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

2. APPROVE/MODIFY AGENDA

**Motion made by Kathy Johnson and seconded Robert Jossie to approve the agenda. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. APPROVE/MODIFY MINUTES OF OCTOBER 26, 2009

**Motion made by Kathy Johnson and seconded by Kyle Hoops to approve the minutes. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gene made some clarifications about a recently published *Green Bay Press-Gazette* article about the museum's attendance. He wants to be sure that there are no misconceptions about a comment he made about the museum putting on the types of exhibits that a for-profit organization would not because they are not money makers and the point of being a non-profit is to be able to do these kinds of things. Gene then highlighted some topics from his October–November report, which he distributed along with some recent publications pertaining to the museum.

- The museum submitted a grant proposal to the Institute of Museum and Library Services that would enable us to catalog the *Green Bay Press-Gazette* negative collection, consisting of over one million images (which also represents 70% of our total collection). Two part-time, limited-term employees would be hired to catalog the collection and enter the information into our collections management database. Computer equipment would also be purchased. The project is anticipated to take three years to complete. Kevin Kuehn asked how much money would be acquired from the grant. Gene replied that we would receive \$130,946 with a similar match from Brown County (funds would include costs from staffing and indirect costs). There would be no additional out-of-pocket costs for the county. There are components of this collection that we do not know much about, so there could be some worthwhile surprises to discover and make available to the public.
- We added a "Children Only Shop" to the *Holiday Memories: Prange's Christmas Windows* exhibit. It is turning out to be extremely popular and busy, so we have been making some adjustments to smooth out its operation.
- In October, our curatorial staff presented a two-part program to Learning in Retirement about intriguing objects from the collections. The program was very well received and will likely be repeated next fall.

- Jill Champeau suggested planting some Hosta plants near the dinosaur sculptures in front of the museum. Gene appealed to the Green and Gold Hosta Society, and they were very willing to donate some plants.
- Art conservator Tony Rajer is near completion of his conservation work on two of the paintings owned by the Green Bay and De Pere Antiquarian Society and which are stored at the museum. Response from visitors who were able to observe his work has been very positive.

Becky McKee reported on the following on behalf of the Neville Public Museum Foundation:

- The Foundation has been working on a membership drive and has gotten approximately 30 new members.
- They have been working hard on fundraising which is starting to pay off with some recently secured donations. The last quarter has historically been a good time for receiving donations.
- The Foundation is finishing up with a new membership brochure which was designed by a NWTC student.
- The Children Only Shop has been a huge success and received a lot of media coverage.
- The Neville Gift Shop sales and inventory are up.
- Becky was contacted by a niece of Isabel Beaudoin's, a Door County artist who passed away last spring. She offered the Neville the opportunity to select as many paintings of her late aunt's art collection as desired. Marilyn Stasiak, Curator of Art, made some selections and all leftover items were offered to the Foundation for use in its fundraising efforts. Becky accepted her offer and took quite a bit of artwork for the Foundation. Ms. Beaudoin was a former art teacher in the Green Bay School district.
- Becky asked for some clarification from Supervisor Johnson about some quotes she made in a recent *Green Bay Press-Gazette* article. Supervisor Johnson said that her intention was to challenge the community to step up and help support the Museum.

Kramer Rock asked Kathy Johnson if Brown County contributed to the *Better by the Bay* promotional project. Supervisor Johnson said that they have not because the county cannot take that position for funding and legal reasons.

**Motion made by Robert Jossie, and seconded by Kathy Johnson, to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS ARE AUTHORIZED BY LAW

No matters were brought forward.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion made by Kathy Johnson and seconded by Kyle Hoops to adjourn at 5:16 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Champeau

**Next Meeting**  
Monday—March 22, 2010  
4:30 p.m.