

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, March 23, 2009, at the Neville Public Museum, 210 Museum Place, Green Bay, Wisconsin

PRESENT: Kevin Kuehn, Kramer Rock, Adam Warpinski, Pat Wetzel

EXCUSED: Kathy Johnson, Charlie Schrock

ALSO

PRESENT: Gene Umberger, Jill Champeau, Becky McKee, Louise Pfothenauer

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kevin Kuehn called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. APPROVE/MODIFY AGENDA

Motion made by Kramer Rock and seconded by Supervisor Adam Warpinski to approve the agenda. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. APPROVE/MODIFY MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 22 AND DECEMBER 15, 2008

Motion made by Kramer Rock and seconded by Supervisor Pat Wetzel to approve the minutes. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. COMPACT STORAGE (informational purposes only)

Louise Pfothenauer, Curator of Collections, provided an update on the compact storage project. She has been contacting other area museums who have done similar moves (Kohler Art Museum, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee Public Museum, the Chazen Museum of Art in Madison, and the Logan Museum at Beloit College). She created a list of expectations for potential moving companies. Louise posted questions to the Registrars' Committee List-Serve and received responses from throughout the United States. She visited the PACIN (Packing, Art Handling & Crating Information Network) website. Louise has contacted some local movers as well (Bekins, Mayflower, and Leicht's).

Most museums were surprised that she was interested in having a mover come in to handle the entire project. They have utilized a combination of staff, volunteers, student interns and movers. The Milwaukee Art Museum suggested hiring a project manager/conservator to come in and handle everything.

Locally, Louise has met with Steve Marquardt from Bekins. He did an onsite visit and was hesitant about taking on this type of project. Some issues he raised were liability regarding broken artifacts. He wasn't sure how they would bid out the job if they pack everything because of the large array of material involved. They talked about his company moving only the larger cabinets. He said they charge \$150/hr for a four-man crew. He suggested that it might be possible to move the large cabinetry in two ten-hour days, which would cost about \$3,000. Louise plans to talk to more local movers, and has a meeting scheduled with Mayflower on March 30. She feels that the project will end up being completed using a combination of movers, staff, interns, and volunteers.

Gene and Louise met with Bill Dowell about the possibility of having Facilities Management serve as project manager and be in charge of the issues outlined in Neil Cockerline's report; such as subcontracting for electrical, installation of an additional fire suppression system, interior painting, ceiling, flooring, cleaning, etc. Mr. Dowell indicated that he would be able and willing to work with us on this project, once we come up with the funds to purchase the Spacesaver equipment.

Supervisor Pat Wetzel asked if liability insurance would be more expensive if the County supervised this project as opposed to having an outside organization manage the project and provide coverage. The County is self-insured, and Louise said we have a blanket insurance policy that covers the collection with a very high deductible. So if something got broken and does not carry much value, it probably would not be replaced. If we get an outside contractor to oversee the project, the price would likely go up because we would be paying them to pay for the additional insurance.

The next step for this project is for Gene to look at potential funding and establishing some sort of timeline.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Gene highlighted some areas of his quarterly report which he distributed.

Exhibits & Programs

We added a Wall of Fame to the *Amazing Feats of Aging* exhibit, and Gene invited the board members to view it. There are about 30 submissions of photos, mainly by young people, of loved ones along with a statement about the positive aspects of aging.

Spiders! will be opening mid-May and is geared for pre-k to 5th grade. Sandy Kallunki, a children's librarian from the Brown County Library, reviewed the label copy and helped to make it more readable for the younger age group. She did a fantastic job and we are very appreciative. The general reading comprehension for the general public is at the 8th grade level.

Henry Golde, author of "Ragdolls: The Experience of a Holocaust Survivor," gave a presentation on January 10. We had such an excellent turnout that we scheduled a second presentation in late January.

We were pleased to get a \$5,500 grant from MetLife Foundation to support the *Amazing Feats of Aging* exhibit and related programs.

Steve Haas is one of the new artists in *Studio 210: Working Regional Artists*. He specializes in sculpture and mobiles and has some of them displayed at the KI Convention Center, NWTC, and one on the second floor of the Museum.

In February, the Historic Sites Division of the Wisconsin Historical Society held an annual conference in Green Bay. About 40 participants visited the Neville and were given tours by Museum staff. They were impressed with the exhibit preparation area.

Miscellaneous

The eighth and final video, titled *Packers Scrapbook*, was installed in the Packers theater, bringing the project to completion. Some other work was completed on the video system by Digital Design Services.

The Green Bay & De Pere Antiquarian Society is going to fund the re-framing of 22 monochromatic paintings by Howard Pyle.

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

- This a difficult year for funding exhibits, so our next reception scheduled for April 24, will combine two art exhibition openings.
- We had 35 30-second commercials running for the *Amazing Feats of Aging* exhibit; we put this video on Youtube.com and our website.

- We are in the process of developing a monthly E-Newsletter, with distribution starting next Tuesday. Becky showed what the logo will look like.
- We are collaborating with the Brown County Federation of Museums' Passenger Passport program, starting in May.
- The Musepaper is being updated and will be printed on an 80" glossy white paper which will enhance the vibrancy of photos and pictures.
- Two new board members have joined the NPM Foundation Board: Julie Lynn, Inside Sales Manager at Schreiber Foods, and Donald Salmon, Vice President Emeritus for College Advancement at St. Norbert College.
- We will be participating in the NEW Real Deals entertainment book. We will be have coupons in the booklet and will sell them in the Gift Shop. We will receive \$20 for every book we sell.
- The Neville now has PayPal on the homepage of our website, allowing people to conveniently contribute to the Museum. We have had it for less than a week, and already received a \$100 donation. Pat Wetzel asked if we are going to tie this to our E-Newsletter and Becky said that we are.
- The Neville Gift Shop is doing very well for this time of year. We have recently received a lot of spring merchandise and have had some good sale days.

8. SUCH OTHER MATTERS AS ARE AUTHORIZED BY LAW

Kramer Rock inquired about the status of the vacancies on the Museum Governing Board. The NPM Foundation Board submitted a list of recommended candidates to County Executive Tom Hinz back in July and August and still has not heard back. Additionally, Adam Warpinski contacted Mr. Hinz regarding the fact that there are three County Board Supervisors from the Education and Recreation Committee on the Governing Board. Adam said that Tom is working on the replacements. We also have two vacancies that need to be filled now that Charlie Schrock has moved to Chicago. Kevin will contact Mr. Hinz to see where he is at with replacing the positions.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Kramer Rock and seconded by Supervisor Pat Wetzel to adjourn at 5:15 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Jill Champeau

Next Meeting
Monday—June 22, 2009
4:30 p.m.