

ANACORTES MUSEUM ADVISORY BOARD & COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE –
MEETING MARCH 6, 2018 – MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Lewis Jones. Present were: Jim Taylor, Gib Moore and Tom Kuhn. A voting quorum was fulfilled. Present as well were: Elaine Walker, Bret Lunsford, and Linda Yerby, staff of the Museum.

Bret Lunsford offered a correction to the February 6, 2018 minutes. Dave Margeson's primary role will be to supervise staff at the Maritime Heritage Center and W.T. Preston and to oversee and do maintenance work on the W.T. Preston.

Gib Moore moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Jim Taylor seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Bret Lunsford

Bret passed out an updated Anacortes Museum Foundation (AMF) budget. This revision includes increasing last month's draft to include money to hire a structural engineer to investigate the possibility of attic storage at the Maritime Heritage Center. He has also bumped up the designation for curatorial supplies for the new Wallie Funk slides and items from the Anacortes High School.

Bret has been in discussions with Vicki Stash about acting as facilitator for the fall retreat. He estimates her cost will be between \$2500 and \$3000, a commitment which will require AMF approval.

Bret met with Parks Department staff regarding this summer's planned work on the Carnegie Building courtyard. The work will include a new flagpole with an internal lanyard, a new interpretive sign, clean-up of the courtyard and installation of a park bench. An event will be held later this year to celebrate our 50th year in the Carnegie Building.

Bret is working on the Pulp Mill exhibit and hopes to have it in place for a soft opening in April. The official opening will be in June after the full opening schedule is in place.

Interviews for the new Public Information Education Coordinator will be held on Friday, March 9.

Bret spoke with Shawn Schollmeyer who is coordinating the Anacortes American digitization project. She is hoping for a spring launch of the first batch. They have been having some problems with their vendor and with the web host. Bret hopes to get the contract in place for the second phase of the project.

Bret and Gib Moore are on a committee working on a display for the new foyer at Williams Gymnasium. They are hoping to have an interactive touch screen that will show past hall of fame students. Bret also is providing research support to Mary Ennes Davis who is working on a mural that will go in the Anacortes Commons and Cafeteria area.

Bret has had a preliminary conversation with Mayor Gere about the possibility of hiring a graduating senior as an intern who could support the museum with digital media work.

The Anacortes Historic Preservation Board and Bill Mitchell are involved in studying the preservation process for the Olson Building (northwest corner of 3rd and Commercial),

Once the Pulp Exhibit is complete, Bret and Lewis will turn their attention to the Photographers' Exhibit planned for the Carnegie Gallery this fall. This month, Bret met with Charles White, the grandson of photographer Charles W. Scarborough.

Bret met with the Skagit County Historical Museum to discuss the possibilities for saving the Rosario School. Bret said the Anacortes Museum is not interested in taking over that building, but probably would have an interest in supporting the preservation effort.

Pam, Elaine and Lea are working to review the search terms in PP5 for consistency and to eliminate redundancy. This will assist users in having better success with searches on the website.

Bret is in contact with the Washington Rural Heritage organization about the possibility of adding a museum link to their website.

Bret will be giving a presentation at the Anacortes Library at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 9 on the historic north shore of Fidalgo Island.

Lewis Jones asked Bret if the board needed to take any action on the proposed AMF Budget that Bret had presented earlier. Bret explained that the document will allow the museum to plan its work for the year and not have to go to the board piecemeal for payments. Jim Taylor asked if the document is flexible. Bret said it is a planning tool for the museum. The board was supportive of the idea of the AMF Annual Budget and suggested Bret present it to the Foundation at its next meeting.

Gib added that he appreciates having an Agenda for the meeting and thanked Bret for developing it.

Tom Kuhn asked the status of the whistle on the W.T. Preston. Bret explained that Tom Thompson was the volunteer who got the whistle set up, but has not transferred it to the staff or trained anyone to use it. He added that Dave Margeson would like to have it on a switch rather than operating it through the computer. Tom asked when we plan to blow the whistle? After discussion, Gib suggested the whistle be blown on the days the W.T. Preston is open. The board recommended that Bret ask Dave Margeson to coordinate staff training with Tom Thompson so the whistle can be used.

COLLECTIONS –

By unanimous vote of the board, the offered items were brought into the museum collection.

ADJOURNMENT –

All items of business having been discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Yerby