

Missoula Board of Trustees

for the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula

Minutes, December 20, 2010

Attending: Michael Fussell, Chair; Gary Glynn, alternate; Robert M. Brown, Executive Director.

Guests: Coby Johnson, President, Friends of the Historical Museum; Don Spritzer, incoming Trustee (1/1/11); Dorene Might-Dyer, Director of Education.

Order: Fussell called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. in Building T-1.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: There was none.

Approval of Minutes: Glynn moved and Fussell seconded approval of the minutes for the November 15, 2010, Trustee Meeting; motion passed.

Correspondence: Brown noted the correspondence in the Director's Report: the email from the Seeley Lake Historical Museum regarding their Preserving Missoula County's History Grant. Fussell opened and passed around a letter from the Seeley Lake Historical Museum thanking the Museum for installing a 1910 fire exhibit at their museum and commending Jason Bain and Rachel Bartlett for their work making it happen.

Executive Director's Report: Brown thanked Glynn for his years of service on the Friends and Trustee boards and presented him with a bottle of wine. Brown welcomed Spritzer to the Board. Brown invited all present to the Board Appreciation Party on February 2. Brown reviewed his report: paid attendance was up, group attendance was down because last year the Museum was collaborating with the Art Museum and Public Library on the ADC school program, the used book sale raised attendance, Brown estimated 100 people per day looked at the library exhibit, *Snowflake Sonata's* last day will be January 3, the Theodore Roosevelt show was a big success and raised \$500 towards the purchase of a collections map book of early Fort Missoula, Might-Dyer is working with Big Sky High School to have new picnic tables made, in light of all the snow - Brown is relieved that he contracted with a snowplowing company to do the parking lot, and Brown will be a co-chair of the Mountain-Plains Museums Association (MPMA) conference in Helena next year. Johnson announced the creation of a standing Used Book Sale Committee and invited anyone to join. Fussell would like to be informed of the dates and specifics of the MPMA and Montana History Conference in case there might be an opportunity to attend.

Old Business:

- The asbestos-related meeting for Building T-1, scheduled for today had been canceled due to weather.
- Fussell reported that there has been some progress but no completion of the Executive Director's Annual Performance Evaluation.

New Business:

- Might-Dyer reviewed the 2010 Interpretive Plan. There was discussion about the use of the words “racism” and “discrimination” in certain contexts, Glynn wanted the sections to be amended to read “broader issues of racism and discrimination,” since those incarcerated at the Fort Missoula ADC were not citizens and it could be argued racism had less a role than military necessity and reasonable fear. Glynn also wanted Goal 3 on page 3 to relate to engaging youth. There was discussion of the actual programs and balance, the use of city and state educational benchmarks, and the possibility to do more in-depth and difficult programming when Building T-1 is completed. Glynn moved approval of the 2010 Interpretive Plan, with those two amendments, Fussell seconded, motion carried.
- Brown encouraged all Trustees to complete the Board Self-Evaluation form that had been included in the board packet.
- Glynn announced that he would miss the monthly Trustee meetings but was confident that Spritzer will be a great asset, and that the business of the Trustees will continue to go on smoothly. He noted how remarkable it was that there has been no major disagreements on the board during his tenure. He thanked all present for their support and friendship.

Comments: There were no comments.

Claims: There were no claims.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting will be a week early, on January 10, 2011, noon, at Building T-1.

Fussell adjourned the meeting at 12:42 p.m.

Drafted 12/20/10, Robert M. Brown