

# Missoula Board of Trustees

## for the Historical Museum at Fort Missoula

Minutes, October 17, 2011

Attending: Robert Tutskey, Acting Chair; Don Spritzer, Alternate; John Rimel, Alternate; Robert M. Brown, Executive Director.

Guests: Coby Johnson, President, Friends of the Historical Museum; Dale Johnson.

Order: Tutskey called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. at Building T-1, Fort Missoula.

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

Approval of Minutes: Spritzer moved and Tutskey seconded approval of the minutes of the September 19 Trustee Meeting; motion passed.

Correspondence: Brown noted the thank-you letters for the Montana History Conference and his semi-regular letter to Reception Desk Volunteers in the Director's Report .

Executive Director's Report: Brown reviewed his report: attendance figures were up, a new "Window to the Museum" exhibit and a Halloween exhibit have been installed, Brown thanked all of those who made the Montana History Conference such a tremendous success and lamented missing most of it due to a bad cold, the "Honoring Our History" event was also a great success, Montana Rail Link has delivered the used railroad ties for the railroad extension and Mac Palmer has begun the extension of the track east of the Trolley Barn, there was a lot of publicity this month due to the special events, and Brown will be co-chairing the Mountain-Plaines Museums Association conference in Helena from October 17 through 21.

### Old Business:

- Brown reported on the T-1 projects: the work is all done, the final report for the House Bill 645/Stimulus Grant has been filed and the reimbursement received, and there was discussion about how to be able to rent the facility to other organizations in the future.

### New Business:

- The abuse of the grounds by the cyclo-cross racers was reviewed, including their subsequent exclusion from the grounds and their promise to fix the damage. Discussion followed about the need to have a new permit system in place to handle this issue in the future.
- There was discussion about the number of meetings the Trustees need to have. It has been the general impression that statute required monthly meetings but no mention of it could be found in the founding documents, and with the Museum now funded with its own designated mill levy whether that statute even applied. Brown will continue to explore the issue with the county chief administrative officer.

- Brown asked if Rimel would be able to help secure the Trolley Barn's last door.
- There was discussion about the status of the Ravalli County Museum and the desire to help them if possible.
- Rimel introduced a possible fund-raiser for the Friends based on a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation program of selling named bricks. Johnson agreed that it should be brought up before the Friends (although the prospect of success, given other Friends fundraisers, was not great), the Friends hands are full at this time, and it would need strong Board leadership.

Comments: There were none.

Claims: There were none.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting will be on November 21, at noon, in Building T-1 at Fort Missoula.

Tutskey adjourned the meeting at 12:45 p.m. and Brown sped off to Helena.

Drafted 10/24/11, Robert M. Brown