

## **Museum Committee Meeting Minutes 08/16/2022**

**Location: Remote**

**Present:** Maddi McGraw (Curator), Chair Stacy Roth, Vice Chair Megan England, Adam Howard, Jenna Fribley, David Schmunk, Tara Puyat

**Absent:** Councilor Pitts (council liaison), Mindy Linder (Community/Outreach), Zak Gosa-Lewis, Matthew Auxier

Meeting called to order by Chair Roth at 5:33 pm.

**Business from the Audience:** Marcus Widenor from the U of O Labor Education and Research Center attended the meeting to introduce himself to the Committee and discuss his upcoming work with the Museum. He explained that he and Maddi, along with another colleague named Bob Bussel, would be working together to create an exhibit for the Museum exploring labor history in Springfield, to support the creation a new labor celebration mural that is being planned for the A3 building across from the Museum. He asked that Committee members get involved with the project, especially in locating people to interview. In response to a question from David, Marcus stated that the project would be focused on no more that 20 interviews due to the time that would need to go into recording and transcribing the interviews. David stated that he thought more people should be interviewed, but stated that he would support the project by sending a list of recommended interviewees to Maddi. Maddi stated that the exhibit was scheduled to open at the January 2023 Art Walk, and that interviews would begin before September.

**Approval of agenda and minutes:** Agenda and minutes from the July 20, 2022 meeting were approved.

**Curator Report:** Maddi provided a written report.

**Community Engagement & Outreach Specialist Report:** Mindy provided a written report.

**Atlas Subcommittee Report:** Megan stated that the subcommittee would be meeting twice monthly for the remainder of the year, and that final materials for the atlas were due to Arcadia on March 14, 2023. She also stated that the group would be focusing on the written materials first and then creating the digital atlas using that draft.

**Historic Commission/Museum Committee Awards Subcommittee Report:** Stacy stated that the jury had met on August 8, 2022, and had come to a decision about which applicants would be awarded. However, she stated that there was some concern from herself and Kristina Koenig Boe, Chair of the Historic Commission, on the final awards decision made by Mayor VanGordon. Maddi stated that she had been a jury member, and was concerned that the majority of the

Mayor's viewpoints were not shared with the jury and thus the decision felt surprising. Stacy shared that she and Kristina had requested clarification from the Mayor on his decision, and had been told that he would not be altering the decision but thought that there was room for improvement in the process for the next awards cycle. Maddi stated that she was concerned that this unilateral decision (and potential fallout from it) could damage the standing of the Museum and Historic Commission, and that she wants to see work put into clarifying the awards process moving forward as well. Jenna stated that she did not want to see this situation taint the awards going forward, and that the goal of everyone involved was to celebrate historic preservation in Springfield.

**Reports from Museum/Library Liaisons:** None.

**Unfinished Business:**

**A. Continue Discussing Committee Recruitment:** Maddi stated recruitment would be closing September 16, 2022 at 5pm, and that Committee members should share the recruitment materials with anyone interested in applying.

**New Business:**

**A. Discuss AAM Museum Core Standards:** Due to time constraints, this item will be added to Unfinished Business at the August 16, 2022 meeting.

**B. Discuss Hosting Maker's Meetup in Museum September 28, 2022:** Maddi and Jenna stated that the Museum would hold a Booth Kelly Maker's Meetup in the Museum on September 28, 2022. Jenna shared that the group is made up of craftspeople and business owners from Springfield, and the meetups are a way to create new ties in this community. Maddi stated that she would like to see the Committee use this as an opportunity to share their role in the Museum and interact with the public.

**C. Info Sharing:** In response to a question from Maddi, it was decided that as many future meetings as possible would be held in-person. Maddi also stated that the Library Foundation would be holding their Pints for Pages fundraiser at Planktown Brewery on the evening of September 28, and that anyone who would like to be involved in planning this event reach out to her or to the Foundation.

Meeting adjourned at 6:51pm.