

THE MUSE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 23, 2024 - 4:30 pm - Lake of the Woods Museum Board Room

PRESENT: Robert Bulman, Cheryl Mosindy, Lisa Lyle, Charito Gallivan, Reid Thompson, Braden Murray (ex officio)

REGRETS: Kirsten Fair, Hannah Edie, Lindsay Koch, Anna Harty

1 CALL TO ORDER at 16:35

We acknowledge that the land on which The Muse is set is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe of Treaty #3, and the Métis people.

The Muse commits to embrace and live the values known as The Seven Grandfathers – respect, love, truth, bravery, wisdom, generosity and humility – values we all esteem. It is our commitment that we will, to the best of our ability, live out these values in our work and purposes so that we can build and strengthen relationships with Indigenous communities and individuals; represent their history and culture accurately and respectfully; involve their members in our work from a position of humility and an attitude of learning so that what we do and present here at the Museum and at the Art Centre will be honest and honouring.

2 APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR MEETING

Moved by Charito Gallivan, seconded by Lisa Lyle that the agenda for the meeting of October 23, 2024 be approved as presented.

Carried.

3 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

nil

4 KNOWLEDGE OF FRAUD AND LEGAL MATTERS

nil

5 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Moved by Cheryl Mosindy, seconded by Reid Thompson that the minutes of the September 26, 2024 meeting be approved as presented.

Carried.

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

nil

7 FINANCIAL

7.1 Operating Budget vs Actuals for Art Centre and Museum for September

- We are up in a number of categories over 2023. One notable place we are down, however, is book sales. Both buildings are down on books sales. Unfortunately, book sales are a little tough to boost because if popular books aren't released there isn't much we can do. Christmas should help these numbers.

- The \$20,000 donation by Rosemary and David Malaher was noted.

7.2 September 2024 expenses - Museum and Art Centre

Moved by Cheryl Mosindy, seconded by Reid Thompson that the September expenses for the Douglas Family Art Centre in the amount of \$33,774.14 be approved.

Carried.

Moved by Lisa Lyle, seconded by Charito Gallivan that the September expenses for the Lake of the Woods Museum in the amount of \$4,670.90 be approved.

Carried.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

From the Museum Advisory Committee:

Moved by Lisa Lyle, seconded by Reid Thompson that the Muse Board appoint a board member to sit on the Museum Advisory Committee.

Discussion: These will be a call put out to Board members to see if anyone is interested. There was a thought that Board members who were not in attendance might be interested. There will be a canvas of Board members before a decision is made.

Carried.

9 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

nil

10 DECISION ITEMS

10.1 Malaher Donation

Moved by Lisa Lyle, seconded by Cheryl Mosindy that half of the donation from the Rosemary and David Malaher (\$10,000) be used to establish the Douglas Family Art Centre Exhibit/Collections Fund, while the other half (\$10,000) is transferred into the LOW Museum Exhibit/Collections Fund.

- The Malahers requested that the Board use the donations as the Board sees fit. The Board voted to establish an AC reserve fund at the April 2023 Board meeting. Until now there hasn't been any money to use to actually start the fund. So this donation is a chance to make that a reality.

Carried.

11 DISCUSSION ITEMS

11.1 Budget Planning 2025

- Formerly the city funding ask was generated by the Board based on the Board approved budget. More recently, with the Muse as a regular city department, we are treated like how other departments are treated. Staff work with Finance, Facilities, and HR to determine what it will cost to run things in the next year, and the city funding is based on that. This includes things like: Staffing costs, Capital project costs, big planned exhibits or projects, etc.
- The Muse ask was slightly lower in 2025 because there was a capital expense (the blinds for the AC) that was not expended in 2023. That is planned for 2025, but we don't need to ask for the money again. There was also some related to staffing (IE not paying a Museum Curator for 2.5 months and the intern turning us down because of housing, etc) .

11.2 Strategic Planning Timelines & Working Groups

- Discussion about the strategic plan. The action items have been broken down in items for the next 12 months, for the next 24 months, and "ongoing"
- Some of the items will be worked on by the advisory committees, while others will have mixed teams based on personal interest. Board members will be canvassed on their interests.
- Some items are pretty light (IE setting up a fund for the DFAC was accomplished earlier in the meeting ✓) while others are quite a bit more involved (IE DFAC Category A application). The rest are somewhere in between.
- Some members volunteered for committees

12 INFORMATION ITEMS

12.1 Directors Report

- Explanation about the absurd and lengthy process of getting David Wagner (Exquisite Miniatures curator) his erroneously charged tax bill.
- There was a brief discussion on Sophie's role in getting the skate park painted.

12.2 Minutes from Committees

- There was a brief discussion about the upcoming salmon exhibit at the AC, and how a similar show, but about sturgeon could be done here.

12.3 November Programme w/ Julie Payette update

- Programme with Julie Payette will be at 7:00 on Nov 7

12.4 Establishment of the Malaher Lecture

- Brief discussion about a proposed Malaher Lecture. This would be a Named Lecture in the academic style that would take place on the last Saturday in May or maybe the first Saturday in June. It would be meant to be a prestige event, and a way to kick off the summer season. The yearly lecture would be specifically be about various aspects of Lake of the Woods history.
- The official title would be "The Rosemary and David Malaher Lecture" or "The Malaher Lecture" for short.
- The Malahers will be asked how they feel about the title before anything is made official

13 CORRESPONDENCE

nil

14 IN CAMERA SESSION

nil

15 OTHER BUSINESS

nil

16 NEXT BOARD MEETING

At 4:30 in the Museum Board Room on November 28, 2024

17 ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Charito Gallivan to end the meeting at 17:39