

**MINUTES
MUSEUM OF THE GREAT PLAINS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022
5:30 P.M.**

Jill Ryans, Chair, called the **Regular Meeting** of the Museum of the Great Plains Authority (MGPA) to order at 5:30 p.m., May 18, 2022, in the Louise D. McMahon (LDM) Hall. Notice of the meeting and the agenda are posted at City Hall and the entrance to the Museum of the Great Plains, as required by Law.

Call to Order with Roll Call.

PRESENT: Jill Ryans, Yuri Schendel, JoAnne Gaasbeck, Linda Chapman, Sharon Cheatwood, Ellouise Love, Carey Monroe (5:40p), Robert Morales, and Ryan Studebaker.

ABSENT: None. **ALSO PRESENT:** Eva Williams, Joe D. Williams, Victoria Zelbst and MGP staff Bart McClenny, Kevin Lawrence, Mary Owensby, Taylor Larson, Trevor Williams, and Jim Whiteley.

1. Welcome Yvonne Landmark, Eva Williams, Joe Williams, and Victoria Zelbst.

Ryans introduced three of the new board members in attendance. Victoria Zelbst is a 5th grade teacher at Freedom Elementary, Eva Williams is retired from federal service, Joe Williams is a Major in the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, and Yvonne Landmark was out of town.

2 Consent Agenda – *The following items are considered routine by the board and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item, that item can be removed from the consent agenda prior to action and considered separately.*

a. April 20, 2022, Minutes

MOTION by Morales to accept the Consent Agenda. **SECONDED** by Love. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE** Ryans, Schendel, Gaasbeck, Chapman, Cheatwood, Love, Morales, and Studebaker. **NAY** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (8-0).**

3. New Business

a. April Financial Statements

MOTION by Gaasbeck to accept the April Financials Statements. **SECONDED** by Cheatwood. **ROLL CALL ON MOTION: AYE** Ryans, Schendel, Gaasbeck, Chapman, Cheatwood, Love, Morales, and Studebaker. **NAY** None. **ABSTAIN:** None. **MOTION CARRIED (8-0).**

b. Target Circle (second round)

McClenny reported the museum is invited to be featured in the Target Circle community giving program at our local Target store in the market “OK State” and online. For a 90-day period, MGP will receive a percent of a grant pool, as well as increased exposure. On average, a nonprofit could receive \$1,000-\$2,000 per 90-day campaign, with a minimum of \$500 per market. MGP received \$689 in a previous campaign.

c. Oklahoma Museum Association “Emergency Preparedness” workshop

The museum will host an all-day workshop in the Louise D. McMahon (LDM) hall on May 24, 2022. Staff from museums in southwest Oklahoma are invited to attend.

d. Chautauqua workshops, June 21-25, 2022

The museum will host workshops again this year at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday in the LDM Hall. The subject is “Surviving the Sixties: Sex, Drugs & Rock ‘n’ Roll”.

e. Summer interns

McClenny reported the museum has three summer interns. Chloe Christensen is working with Living History Interpreter Ian Swart, Sarah Dodd is working with Collections Manager Jim Whiteley, and Wendy Standley will work in Special Collections with Special Collections Curator Taylor Larson. Each intern’s field of work is Museum Studies at various universities.

f. Part-time employee departures – Patrick Wilson and Kristin Dodd

Groundskeeper Patrick Wilson is moving to Florida and receptionist Kristin Dodd has accepted a teaching position at Lawton Public Schools.

g. Board training opportunities

Lawrence reported he attended a workshop sponsored by the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits and learned they offer board training classes. If the MGPA board is interested in attending board training, he will find out what options are available. Sessions could be a four-hour class or up to weekend board retreat. Schendel said she could attend a class if offered in Lawton. Monroe asked is a virtual class might be offered. Lawrence will bring additional information to the June board meeting.

4. Old business

a. Special Collections

- 1. May 14, Audie Murphy Club**
- 2. May 31 and June 3, parts and installation**

Taylor Larson, Special Collections Curator reported eight members of the Fort Sill Audie Murphy Club volunteered and cleared three 20’ shelving units of archival boxes and records in preparation for the installation of the manual shelving.

b. Security camera installation, OMN exterior; depot, schoolhouse

McClenny reported the camera above the OMN exterior entry was installed. The Depot and schoolhouse will be wireless, and the company is waiting for parts to arrive.

c. Foyer HVAC

McClenny stated the HVAC in the front lobby and museum store stopped working several weeks ago. McClenny emailed Linda Chapman and she contacted the City Manager. The next morning, the Deputy City Manager contacted McClenny and told him the City of Lawton is aware of the problem and will work on it. Many thanks to Ms. Chapman.

d. Tree service

Sullivan Tree Service (Pat Sullivan) and crew have started trimming trees on the back grounds.

e. Summer program

McClenny asked MGP Educator Trevor Williams to speak about the upcoming summer program. Williams said a few parents have asked if their child can attend even though their birthdays are later in the year (5 yr. olds); signup age is 6 years old. The board decided the age (birthday) cutoff should be September 1st. Currently there are nine children registered for the morning classes and two for the afternoon classes.

f. “First Thursday” extended hours, May 5

The first extended hours day on May 5th was not well attended. The museum will host the next event on June 2nd and see if there is more interest.

g. Trading post project

- 1. Progress payment to *Historical Applications, Inc* (Bill Bailey)**
- 2. June 1st start date**
- 3. McCasland Foundation**

McClenny said the invoice from Bailey was not received, so it will be presented in June for approval. Bailey will start June 1st and will initially tear down the northwest blockhouse, which will enable better access to the trade room for demolition.

A meeting with Barbara Braught of the McCasland Foundation was scheduled to visit Monday, but at the last minute had to cancel and reschedule for June. McCasland gave the museum \$90,000 for the trading post plan.

Foundations given plans so far in anticipation of submitting grant requests for the project include The McMahon Foundation, the Terry K. Bell Foundation, and the McCasland

Foundation. In 1982, The McMahon Foundation funded the original Trading Post construction at a cost of \$50,000.

5. Upcoming meetings

a. June 15 (Wed), Museum of the Great Plains Authority

6. Comments, audience participation

Gaasbeck reported the next Governance Committee meeting will be May 26th at 10:30 am.

7. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Owensby, Secretary

For Museum of the Great Plains Authority (MGPA)

Jill Ryans, Chair MGPA Board