



**CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MUSEUM BOARD MEETING
556 W. Maple
Thursday, October 9, 2025
5:00 PM**

Members Present: Kristy Barrett (Alternate), Kamala Cummings, Alexandra Harris, Judith Keefer, Marty Logue, Robert Moll
Members Absent: Mike Ableson, Eva Kirkman
Student Representative: Mercy Wisecup
Administration: Museum Director Leslie Pielack
Guests: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 PM by Ms. Logue.

**Approval of the Minutes
Minutes of August 7, 2025**

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Cummings:

To approve the minutes of August 7, 2025.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

New Business

Members considered a change in meeting schedule for 2026 that would reduce the number of meetings. This is due to various factors, primarily conflicts with religious and other holidays, a lighter schedule for museum board activities, and additional demands and responsibilities of museum staff in 2026. Because the city's print calendar is about to go to the printer, a decision was requested at this meeting. The ordinance requires a meeting at least quarterly. Should a need arise in between scheduled meetings, members would be contacted for an additional meeting, and the Collections Subcommittee would meet on an as-needed basis. The board discussed the schedule and arrived at a schedule of six meetings, as follows:

- January 8, 2026
- March 12, 2026
- May 7, 2026
- June 4, 2026
- August 6, 2026
- October 1, 2026

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Harris:

To change the Museum Board's scheduled meetings for 2026 as noted.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Unfinished Business

Ms. Barrett shared a conversation she began with a neighbor but has not yet finished, and newer members asked for more information. All members requested that the project description and Deed of Gift be re-sent to them. Members reviewed the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan draft document regarding structure, appearance, and content and Museum Director Pielack discussed the survey data and its presentation and interpretation.

MOTION: by Keefer, seconded by Harris:

To approve the draft Birmingham Museum 2026-2028 Strategic Plan as presented, and bring it back for final Museum Board approval at the November, 2025 meeting.

VOTE: Yeas, 6
Nays, 0

Communication and Reports

Director Pielack gave an oral Director Report. Chelsea Hunter will be leaving the museum for a full time position, and the Museum Assistant position will be posted. Due to the length of time to post, screen, interview, make an offer, onboard and train a new employee, it will likely be the New Year before the new person will be in place. The Allen House will be closing to the public beginning Thanksgiving weekend to install the new exhibit for 2026, and some displays may be scaled back due to Chelsea's departure.

Member Comments

Ms. Barrett commented on the Underground Railroad project in West Bloomfield. Members agreed to a suggestion that the November meeting take place in the Hunter House with a sneak preview of the candlelight tour being launched in November.

The next Regular Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 6, 2025, at 5:00 PM at the Hunter House.

Ms. Logue adjourned the meeting at 6:05 PM.