

# PACIFIC GROVE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

## Special Museum Board Meeting

### MINUTES

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18 November 2009

PRESENT: David Shonman (Chair), Sharon Blaziek, John Pearse,  
Judy Wills  
ABSENT: Geva Arcanin (excused)  
STAFF: Annie Holdren  
GUESTS: Nancy McDowell, Lighthouse Docent Coordinator

Chair Shonman called the meeting to order at 3:40pm. He briefly outlined the reasons why the scheduled meetings since the September 9 regular meeting had been canceled: late September special meeting to consider the AAM visit (the visit had been postponed), October regular meeting (city-wide power failure), November regular meeting (Veterans Day).

#### I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved unanimously after Shonman said item X A. Museum Collections: Proposed Accessions would be postponed because Curator Walker was away and could not report on it.

#### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of September 9, 2009 meeting approved unanimously.

#### III. CORRESPONDENCE

*none*

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

*none*

#### V. CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

*none* (Council Liaison Deborah Lindsay was unable to attend meeting because of family committments.)

## **VI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

Wills said she participated in the Spiders and Bats Science Saturday, and it was fabulous, with many families participating throughout the day.

Shonman reported that he was at the Museum the past Saturday and was impressed with a class being taught in the education room. He thought the Museum was growing into a “center” of activities. He also commended the City’s Public Works Department for getting a generator to the Museum during the October storm that caused the power outage, and Director Manel for spending the night at the Museum to make sure the generator did not fail.

## **VII. MUSEUM DIRECTOR REPORT**

Director Mannel provide her monthly reports of September and October to Shonman, who distributed them to the Board members last week. All the Board members were impressed with the substantial increase in attendance both months, and the number of hits the website had received. Wills complimented the reports as informative and concise, and other Board members agreed.

Shonman said he would like to have Curator Walker attend a Board meeting and talk about the collections.

## **VIII. LIAISON/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Museum Association**

Blaziek provided Shonman with her Association Liaison report, which Shonman distributed to the Board members last week. There were no comments on it. Blaziek said that members of the Association were finalizing a letter and ballot to dissolve the Association and merge it with the Foundation. They will be sent to the Association members in January 2010.

### **B. Monarch Advocacy Liaison Report**

Blaziek provided Shonman with her Monarch Liaison report, which Shonman distributed to the Board members last week. She reiterated that plans for Monarch Madness are shaping up, and it should be an exciting event. In response to Pearse’s question, she said monarch numbers in the Sanctuary are down, but they are up in Santa Cruz, so the City’s trimming the eucalyptus trees probably was not the cause of the low numbers in the Sanctuary this year.

There was a short discussion on who is responsible for the

Sanctuary; the City's Public Works Department is responsible for the care of the Sanctuary, but the Museum Association is responsible for the docent program. Shonman said he would put the Sanctuary on next month's agenda.

## **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Update - Point Pinos Lighthouse Issues**

Shonman said that the restoration report has been delivered to the City, and it identified many things that need attention. He also said that Dennis Tarmina told him that he wants to form a "Friends of the Pacific Grove Lighthouse" group, which needs to coordinate with the City and the Museum Board.

## **X. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Museum Collection: Proposed Accessions.**

Postponed to next meeting.

### **B. Update - City Manager**

Shonman reported that he had a meeting with the new City Manager, Tom Frutchey, and was very impressed with him. He invited Frutchey to attend the next Board meeting.

### **C. Update - Museum's role**

Shonman also distributed his statement given to the City Council at their September 2 meeting regarding the the role of the Museum Board as outlined by the City Charter and City Council Policy 200-5. He reiterated that these documents need revision, but not now. He suggested that the Board now has four main roles:

1. Watch over the Foundation's fund raising and naming policies.
2. Review the Foundation's business plan, which is now with the City.
3. Review the relationship between the Monarch Sanctuary and the City and the Museum.
4. Watch over the Association's (-> Foundation's) and City's websites.

**Adjournment:** 4:50 pm

The next meeting will be at a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 9.

Respectively submitted,

**John Pearse**  
Member, Museum Board, City of Pacific Grove

DRAFT