

PACIFIC GROVE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Special Museum Board Meeting

MINUTES **DRAFT**

15 December 2009

PRESENT: David Shonman (Chair), Geva Arcania, Sharon Blaziek, John
Pearse, Judy Wills
ABSENT: *none*
STAFF: Lori Mannel (Museum Director)
GUESTS: *none*

- Chair Shonman called the meeting to order at 10:35am.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved unanimously.

II. CORRESPONDENCE

Shonman reported that Council Liaison Lindsay wrote that she could not make the meeting, but she wanted to make sure that the Board considered protection of the collections was part of its role.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mannel reported on the very positive feedback she had received from her letter about the state of the Museum, and request for donations.

Shonman asked Mannel how much was donated to the Museum during Monarch Madness; Mannel did not know.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. City Project Plans and Commission Restructuring.

Shonman summarized the Mayor's letter he received as Museum Board Chair about possible restructuring of the City's Boards and Commissions and asked for discussion. After a wide-ranging discussion covering Board member's terms, Board meeting frequency, Board responsibilities, liaison to the Board from the Museum Foundation of Pacific Grove, who should provide scientific guidance to the City (including for the Monarch Grove Sanctuary), and modification of the Article 26 of the City Charter and Council Policy 200-5 with respect to the Board's responsibilities, the Board agreed on the following:

1. Board members should check with the City Clerk about their terms. If their terms are up in February 2010, as stated on the City's webpage for all but Shonman, and they wished to be re-appointed, they should submit the necessary paperwork by December 18.
2. Shonman would distribute to Board members a copy of an e-mail he received from City Attorney Laredo regarding possible conflict of interest of a Board member who was also on the Museum Foundation Board, and explore whether such a person or someone else could serve as liaison between the Board and the Foundation.
3. Blaziek and Pearse agreed to form a subcommittee to explore how scientific advice on the monarch butterflies might be provided to the City.
4. The Board was responsible for advising the City Council about the collections, buildings, and facilities of the Museum, which are the property of the City, as well as to provide a forum for the public about matters concerning the Museum; other possible responsibilities, such as the operation of the Museum, were left unresolved.
5. Possible revision of Article 26 of the City Charter and Council Policy 200-5 would be re-examined after August 2010, when the Museum Foundation had been operating the Museum for one year.

In addition, the Board considered and voted on two issues:

1. Frequency of Board meetings.

Wills moved, Pearse seconded:

“The Museum Board meetings should occur quarterly with the possibility of Special Meetings being called at the discretion of any Board member, starting in January 2010.”

Blaziek moved, Shonman seconded that the motion be amended to delay starting the quarterly meetings by one year.

The amendment was defeated by a vote of 2 for, 3 against.

The original motion was passed by a vote of 3 for, 2 against.

The regular meetings in 2010 will be the second Wednesdays of January, April, July, and October.

2. Providing scientific guidance to the City.

Arcanin moved, Blaziek seconded:

“Whereas the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History serves as a regional and educational resource center for scientific information, the Museum Board recommends that the Beautification & Natural Resources

Committee be responsible for advising the City Council on scientific guidelines for protecting the City’s natural resources, including the Monarch Grove Sanctuary.”

Passed unanimously.

Shonman said he would take the motion to the Beautification & Natural Resources Committee meeting, that was scheduled later in the day.

Adjournment: 1:00 pm

The next Museum Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 3:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,
John Pearse
Member, Museum Board, City of Pacific Grove

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