

Meeting of the Heritage Museum Advisory Board
January 8, 2025, 5:30 PM, Heritage Museum Meeting Room

Call to Order: The meeting was opened at 5:30 PM by chair Billy Whisenant. No online presentation or recording could be made of this meeting due to malfunctioning equipment.

Roll Call: The entire board was in attendance: Chair Billy Whisenant, John Young, Vickie McCubbin, Ken Fetters, Joe Martinez, Delaina Soboloski, and Heath Liaison. Staff Liaison Amy Christensen and City Council Liaison Marilyn Morton were also present.

Minutes of the last meeting: Ken Fetters moved to approved the minutes, John Young 2nd, motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports/Presentations: Amy gave the staff presentation. She detailed her background and qualifications for being museum staff. She asked for volunteers to come Saturday, February 1st, from 9 AM to 1 PM for the museum cleanup day. Other specific information provided by Amy:

- Since its opening the museum has had more than 15,000 visitors.
- The Youth Art Show is going on, and the reception is 5:30 PM on January 9.
- The next exhibit will be “What Does the Fox Say,” and an ASL version is being filmed.
- Heritage Museum has an exhibit 1908 Independence baseball uniform) at a heritage event in Salem.
- The museum will be working with Luckiamute Watershed Council posting panels in the park.
- Field trips have been scheduled, both for local schools and for a group from Capitol Manor.

Unfinished Business: Ken is working with the Heritage Museum Society in applying for grants, and has obtained information about both the Reeser Foundation and the Spirit Mountain Community Fund. Both are program specific. There was discussion of a meeting with the Independence City Manager and also of collaboration between the Heritage Museum Society and the Friends of the Independence Library.

New Business: Elections were held. The newly elected officers are Vickie McCubbin, President and Billy Whisenant, Secretary. Billy was thanked for his service as president for the past year.

Other Discussion/Information Items: Billy gave an update on the Wall that Heals. It will be in Independence from Tuesday, Sept. 17 to Sunday, Sept. 21. The initial \$12,000 site fee was paid for by the Polk County Commissioners. Many volunteers will be needed along with additional funding. The next meeting of the Wall that Heals group is January 22nd. Recordings of previous meetings are available for viewing.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM.