

# City of Fairhope Museum Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes for October 2, 2019

**Call to Order/Determination of Quorum/Meeting Minutes:** Chair Catherine King called the meeting to order at 3 p.m. Attending were Louie Blaze, Wayne Brunson, Paul Czajka, Alan Samry, John Taratsas, Thelma Todd, Jessica Walker and Darby Wiik. Oliver Gilmore was excused, Councilman Jack Burrell sent regrets. Quorum reached. Meeting minutes approved (Motion: Blaze/Second: Czajka).

**Board Membership:** Terms for King and Taratsas end in January 2020. King will roll off the Board, Taratsas has not made a decision on whether he will apply for reappointment.

**Election of Secretary:** There being no volunteers to assume the duties of secretary, the chair took minutes.

### **Director's Report, Alan Samry:**

1. The Museum's facebook page was launched this summer; efforts are underway to increase 'likes' and pull readers to the page.
2. The Museum is now open each First Friday Art Walk with good attendance reported.
3. The Museum Plaza Fountain is undergoing repair to the pump and decorative stones. It is not operational at present.
4. Attendance report showed numbers lower this year to-date from last year. Discussion followed on reasons and how to increase the number of guests.
5. Fairhope's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be celebrated on November 15<sup>th</sup> from 3-5 pm at the Museum. This is a free event for the public to celebrate Round Up Day when the first settlers came to Baldwin County in 1894.
6. The next exhibit at the Museum – the Women of Fairhope - will open in late summer of 2020 and will tie in with the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment.
7. The late Alan Hoffman, supporter of and docent at the Museum, left a portion of his estate to the Museum. This is still in probate at the time of the meeting.

### **Old Business:**

1. **Archive Space/Welcome Center:** Jessica Walker, Director of Economic and Community Development, reported that when renovations to the Welcome Center begin, the Museum Archives will be stored at the City facility on south Section Street -sometimes called the "old dog toy factory." She said the Fairhope City Council understood the needs at the Welcome Center and the importance of securing the Archives collection safely.
2. **Insurance on the Collection:** Per Mrs. Walker: The Museum's collection is insured by Roberts & Roberts, the agency for the City. Any items on loan to the Museum are insured by the owner.
3. **Publicity:** Per Mrs. Walker: The current City policy allows departments to write their own press releases, but they must pass through Mrs. Walker's office where they will be distributed to media outlets. The Friends of the Fairhope Museum of History is granted access to the media list to publicize Friends sponsored events.

**New Business** – Meeting Dates for 2020 are January 8, April 1, July 1 and October 7.

**Motion to adjourn** (Motion: Blaze/Second Czajka) at 4 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine King, Chair

*Approved 1/8/2020*