

**NAPER SETTLEMENT MUSEUM BOARD
MINUTES
Monday, March 9, 2009, 8:00 a.m.**

Members Present: Mayor George Pradel, Steve Adams, Kimberly Brown, Chris Birck, Dave Kelsch, Kevin Pickett, Kyle Todd and Student Representatives Sara Fitzpatrick and Alicia Oken

Members Absent: Kitty Murphy, Grant Wehrli and student representative Linden Kovarik

Staff Present: Joleen Dimond, Dan DiSanto, Debbie Grinnell, Harriet Pistorio and Donna Sack

Staff Absent: John Buckley and Peggy Frank

Mayor Pradel called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Joleen Dimond noted corrections to the financial section of the January 12, 2009 minutes. A motion to approve the minutes, as corrected, was made by Dave Kelsch and seconded by Chris Birck. **MOTION PASSED.**

Joleen Dimond highlighted the Naper Settlement Operating Financial Report for the period ending December 31, 2008. Ms. Dimond noted that overall the budget was \$370,000 ahead of plan, in large part due to lower than originally planned expenditures, and salary savings due to staff vacancies as a result of the hiring freeze in place at this time. Ms. Dimond referred members to the Key Performance Indicators and noted that they are a good snapshot of performance. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Kevin Pickett and seconded by Kyle Todd. **MOTION PASSED.**

Kimberly Brown was welcomed as a new member to the board. Ms. Brown stated that she was pleased to become a part of the Naper Settlement Museum Board. She asked that her term be clarified, as page 8 of the packet has her term beginning on 2/17/07.

There were no comments or questions regarding the Executive Director's report.

As part of Old Business, Harriet Pistorio presented the outcome of the CIP workshop. City Council approved the last phase of the Pre-Emption House HVAC project. Council did not approve the storm water project. Council did note that this is a worthy project, however with the current financial climate; it is not one that they felt that they could support. Debbie Grinnell noted that conversations are in progress with city staff to explore the potential of applying fee-in-lieu dollars collected by the City from developers who cannot implement stormwater management on their property towards the Settlement project. Additionally, a meeting with DuPage County stormwater management engineers will be held on March 20 to discuss the County's stormwater management ordinance and potential future credits for green initiatives like porous paver systems, which would then reduce the stormwater storage requirements. Bill Novak has and will be a part of these conversations. Steve Adams highly encouraged that these conversations be "engineer to engineer." It was also noted that other funding would be pursued for this project, including the IL EPA 319 Grant, along with other options.

Donna Sack then presented ADA Accessibility at Naper Settlement noting that this was follow-up to a previous discussion held in September 2008. Sack highlighted Naper Settlement staff

recommendations regarding ADA accommodation in public programs. Sack referred to the memorandum in the board packet, highlighting that staff did a great deal of research of similar agencies, reviewed current museum practices, past customer history and concluded that the current policy and procedures should remain unchanged. Staff requested that the city attorney prepare a written statement reflecting Naper Settlement's compliancy with Title III and ADA law. The Mayor noted that this review took place because of a resident request, made through the Advisory Commission on Persons with Disabilities, that Naper Settlement provide aides for children with disabilities participating in its programs. The Mayor complimented Dan DiSanto's handling of this situation, stating that it was a difficult one. Mr. DiSanto thanked the Mayor and reported that should it be desirable to pursue funding for aides that it would be valid to pursue funding through SECA in next year's cycle. Board members felt that this was neither desirable, nor a good idea to request funds for this purpose, as it was felt that Naper Settlement is compliant and that this could send a mixed message. Families can provide their own aide, at no cost, to accompany program participants to a museum program. The board recommended that the language of the Camp letter be changed to reflect that notification by a parent or caregiver about a child's special needs, food allergies or other concern be made at least one week prior to the first day of camp. Kevin Picket noted that Naper Settlement's website could include related information, as appropriate. Dave Kelsch noted that school systems and park districts provide aides because of reasons specific to their type of organizations. Ms. Sack added that school districts and park districts are required by law to provide aides. Mr. Adams again stated that even if funding for aides were available, this would not be necessary, nor practical, and not advisable, as Naper Settlement is providing reasonable accommodation. It was determined that communication to and from participants is paramount and that Naper Settlement should continue its current practices. It was moved by Kevin Picket and seconded by Steve Adams that the Board supported and approved the recommendations as set forth in the memorandum on pages 17-19.

MOTION PASSED.

The Board's attention then moved to New Business, with a discussion of the proposed change to the liquor ordinance to allow the regular service of alcohol at Naper Settlement. The Mayor noted that in his role as liquor commissioner, this change is supported by him in order to put Naper Settlement on par with other similar institutions. The Mayor thanked staff for the extensive research about other museums, a synopsis of which is included in the packet. The Mayor noted that this would be reviewed at the upcoming City Council meeting on March 17, 2009.

Debbie Grinnell then updated the board on the progress to date with the working group's review of Naperville's Preservation Ordinance. The working group consists of two Naperville Heritage Society representatives (Peggy Frank and Debbie Grinnell), 2 city staff (Suzanne Thorsen and Ying Liu), 2 residents (Carol Schmidt and Susan Fitch) and 2 North Central College representatives (Paul Loscheider and Alice Stonebraker). Ms. Grinnell said that there has been continued progress with the process. Mayor Pradel and Kevin Picket expressed that they really like the definition of consensus as "I can live with that..." and felt that it was a reasonable definition with regard to this process. Kyle Todd noted that he didn't feel that many people are informed and aware of the process. He cited the loss of the Hammerschmidt House as a pivotal moment, in that the house is now gone, yet people are still concerned and frustrated. Ms. Grinnell noted that there has been widespread notification of the current review via all parties

(Naperville Heritage Society, the City, ECHO) with press releases, E-blasts and more. Mr. Todd noted that he felt that the opinions of all should be considered and Ms. Grinnell noted that it is an important part of this process and its final outcome. It was noted that educational outreach by the City and the Historic Sites Commission will be key in implementation success. Mr. Todd suggested consideration of creating ordinance language that would require notification that their home is in the district, to purchasers, at time of closing. Other ideas included having the agencies define the benefits of preservation and articulate that to the community at large, in order to build buy-in from district residents so that they can build on their own momentum, and that the process for certificates of appropriateness be streamlined. The Mayor noted that the neighborhood needs to take ownership of the fact that they live in a historic district and Kevin Piket noted that realtors need to make sure that they are informing buyers about the preservation restrictions and benefits. Ms. Grinnell said that a public workshop will be held on March 19 for input from the community at large. Ms. Grinnell noted that she and Ms. Frank are hopeful that they will have a report for the City Council in April or perhaps May.

Donna Sack shared that the 2009 Heritage Hall of Honor applications are now available if anyone has a person that they would like to nominate for their efforts on behalf of the Naperville Heritage Society. The nomination deadline is May 15, 2009. Ms. Sack noted that the award ceremony will be held on Sunday, August 2, 2009 (instead of at Naper Days). Also upcoming is the May 31st premier of the Naperville Heritage Society documentary, which will include staff anniversary recognition, including Peggy Frank's 30th year with the organization.

Harriet Pistorio called the board's attention to the wedding industry research report. Ms. Pistorio indicated that the Chapel as a location for wedding ceremonies is holding its own in an adverse financial climate. Pricing changes offering discounts during off-peak times and increases at popular times were noted. The Mayor commented that in a conversation with Fred Thompson, Thompson said that with a small town atmosphere and beautiful venues, Naperville is a fabulous place to get married.

Chris Birck encouraged everyone to attend the Sullivan's Wine Dinner on April 27. Tickets are \$175.00 per person and the meal with accompanying wine has always been wonderful.

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday, June 22, 2009 at 8 A.M. in the Mayor's Conference Room. At 8:48 A.M., Chris Birck made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve Adams. **MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Sack, Director of Visitor Services, Naper Settlement

Approved at June 22, 2009 Naper Settlement Museum Board Meeting