

MINUTES
ABRAHAM LINCOLN PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETINGS

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
9:30 am

DRAFT

PRESENT

Trustees

Gary Johnson, Chair

Steve Beckett

Joan Brodsky

Jessica Harris

Kathryn Harris

Melinda Spitzer Johnston

Jason Lesniewicz (absent)

Dan Monroe

Martin Sandoval

Eunice Santos (absent)

Guests

Jesse Ruiz, Deputy Guvnor

Staff

Melissa Coultas, Acting Executive Direct, Chief of Staff, Interim Human Resource Director

Toby Trimmer, Chief Operating Officer

Dave Kelm, General Counsel, Ethics Officer, FOIA Officer

Hannah Ross, Executive Assistant

Lawrence Patterson, Facilities Director

Lisa Horsley, Library Services Director

Public Comment

No public comment

Consent Items

Minutes from March 17, 2021, Public Meeting

Trustee Dan Monroe made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2021, public meeting. Trustee Kathryn Harris seconded the motion. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairman Report

Deputy Governor Ruiz thanks Chairman Johnson for accepting his new role as chair. He noted that he and Chairman Johnson had worked together for many years, and from experience, he knows that Chairman Johnson's leadership will make him a great chairman for this board and colleague. He also thanked the board members for their service during this critical time while the ALPLM attempts to negotiate a new MOU with the Foundation and their relationship.

Chairman Johnson thanks Deputy Governor Ruiz and Governor Pritzker and looks forward to working with them as Chairman. He thanked exiting Chairman Ray LaHood for establishing this board and keeping them on the right track.

As Chairman, Johnson would like to support the new Executive Director Christina Shutt, Continue the work Ray LaHood started, and help get the ALPLM accredited with the American Alliance of Museums.

Executive Director Report

The Executive team sat for a House Tourism committee hearing last Thursday. The staff was informed of this hearing two weeks before. They had to ask for clarification of the purpose of the hearing. They were told the hearing was about the relationship between the Foundation and ALPLM and previous legislation passed regarding the ALPLM. Staff provided opening testimony and answered questions. The hearing ended with a request that the ALPLM sit for mediation with the Foundation. The ALPLM staff agreed to mediation when the Foundation is removed from our act.

Yesterday the executive team sat for the ALPLM legislation Audit Commission hearing. It was mentioned at that hearing that the agency had a good audit for it being relatively new. The commission was happy to hear that the ALPLM has a modernized collections policy, a collections committee, and that the board must approve loans.

Monday was the 16th anniversary of the ALPLM, and we celebrated with Mayor Jim Langfelder, the head of SVCB, and Executive Director of Looking for Lincoln. The ALPLM was presented with a proclamation claiming April 19, 2021, as Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum day in Springfield.

The board members had a robust discussion about their concerns, opinions, questions, viewpoints, and stance on mediation and the separation from the Foundation. The discussion was summarized with three points:

1. The Executive staff deserves thanks for their long-drawn-out work in a time crisis.
2. As we advance, the ALPLM team and board are willing and open to have a special meeting if there is a need with our Foundation.
3. This is not a final divorce from the Foundation, but a separation, and it doesn't mean we are closed to other options down the road.

Chief Operating Officer Report

The State of Sound exhibit is opening next Friday, and the team extends an invite to all board members to attend the ribbon-cutting event. This exhibit was created and developed in-house, and all departments were heavily involved.

Chief Legal Officer Report

Kelm thanked the board members who parsed out their economic interest statement and their supplemental statement of economic interest. These are due in the early part of May, and he will send an email reminder to members.

Facilities Director Report

The ALPLM has 19 infrastructure projects on their capital development board list for review and financial support. Currently, two of those projects are being funded. Those funded projects are replacing two large power supply units and replacing our glycol chillers. Other projects on the list are replacing the humidifiers, boilers, boiler pumps, reducing carbon footprints, renovation of the gateway, lighting upgrade, and replacing heat trace elements.

An ALPLM group prioritizes these projects then the list gets submitted to CDB and GOMB, who decides which projects gets funded.

New Business

Closed Session minutes Approval

Trustee Steve Beckett made a motion to approve and maintain minutes in closed session. Kathryn Harris seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of creation of ALPLM Public Trust Fund

The ALPLM team is requesting the board approve the establishment of the trust fund to receive restrictive and unrestrictive gifts and membership money from a membership program that they will set up.

The board discussed their concerns on the timeline and questions about this trust fund.

Trustee Steve Beckett made a motion to approve the creation of the ALPLM Public Trust Fund. Jessica Harris seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of loan request for Executive Mansion

Last Wednesday, Frist Lady Pritzker and staff visited and requested to see some china and paintings in our collection. The ALPLM received a loan request from DNR for three china items and 11 paintings. The ALPLM collections committee met and approved the loan minus one item, and with the stipulation, the ALPLM staff must do the installation and deinstallation. The loan will be for one year.

Trustee Joan Brodsky made a motion to approve the loan request. Trustee Dan Monroe seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Foundation Update

There was no foundation representative present for this board meeting. The link to the board meeting was sent to Foundation representatives.

Old Business

Provenance Committee Update

The provenance committee has not met since the separation from the Foundation, and all activity is on pause.

Trustee Kathryn Harris made a motion to adjourn meeting. Trustee Mindy Spitzer Johnston seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:14 am