

**ILLINOIS STATE MUSEUM
BOARD MEETING**

May 9, 2022, 1 p.m.

ISM-502 S. Spring St., Springfield, IL

Attending: Officers: Chair Donna Sack (via Webex), Secretary Sarah Doherty; Board members Tamira Brennan, Beth Shadur (via Webex), Roger Taylor, nikhil trivedi, and Kristin DiCenso; Illinois State Museum Staff Members Cinnamon Catlin-Legutko, Jennifer Edginton, Erika Holst, and Meghan Lindstrom; Architect of the Capital Andrea Aggertt.

I. Welcome

Secretary Sarah Doherty welcomed attendees and the meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Meghan Lindstrom called the roll and a quorum was present.

III. Capitol Complex Master Plan Presentation – Andrea Aggertt

Andrea Aggertt presented the Masterplan Draft 2050 for the Capitol Complex. The Masterplan includes a new museum building to replace the current one but in a different location in Springfield. Andrea explained that the plan does not guarantee that a new museum building will be built. It is a plan that will be implemented only if funding is secured through state appropriations or fundraising.

Andrea's current focus is to increase complex security, improve parking while increasing green spaces, and address the aging infrastructure. The entire Capitol Complex, including the museum, is connected through several loops for electrical power, heating, and cooling. Replacing these systems take priority before a new museum building can be built.

Andrea has identified five main needs for a new museum building. Her design for the building would need space for the collections held at the Research and Collection Center, a dedicated visitor parking lot, public event space, a grand assembly hall, and a decontamination space for incoming collection items. Three locations in Springfield are being considered for the new museum. The preferred location is the state lot immediately west of the existing museum. The other possible locations are the lot north of the governor's mansion or state lots on the corner of 2nd and Washington. The projected cost estimate in 2019 was \$328 million. Andrea warned that the cost would be higher with

the rising cost of building supplies.

IV. Approval of the Minutes of January 10, 2022

Secretary Sarah Doherty presented the minutes for approval. Roger Taylor moved to approve the minutes, Beth Shadur seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

V. DNR Report – Kristin DiCenso

Kristin reminded Board members to complete their Statements of Economic Interest. Failing to file the statement would result in a fine.

Kristin announced that a significantly improved budget had been approved for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) at the last legislative session. There was also legislation that merged the Illinois State Museum with the State Historic Sites. The 56 sites had originally been placed in the Lands Division and treated as Parks with few staff due to budget constraints. State Historic Sites are now under the Museum which opens the possibility for better and more inclusive interpretation for visitors. The Museum will need to hire site interpreters who can speak difficult history with conviction.

Kristin informed the Board that Director Callahan is attempting to change the name of the department to “Natural and Cultural Resources” in order to more accurately represent the work of the whole agency. The change will only be made if approval is given from the Governor’s Office.

VI. Museum Director’s Report

Cinnamon reported that planning was underway for an exhibit the Museum will create for a new transportation center in Springfield. This exhibit will feature artifacts from the 1908 Race Riot which were uncovered by construction for the city’s rail improvement project. The exhibit and transportation center are projected to be completed in 2025.

There is a plan to return the Museum to a seven-day schedule starting on July 1st. Three more visitor services staff will need to be hired to cover the extra shifts. The hires are on a priority list for DNR along with the Director of Exhibits and the Director of Tribal Relations. Sarah asked if hiring a Director of Tribal Relations would allow Brooke Morgan to focus more on repatriation for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Cinnamon said that the new Director would have little role in NAGPRA and instead would work across DNR and focus on policy making.

Deaccession Request

Erika Holst presented a deaccession request for the 1948 Hunter Collection. Items in the collection are in good condition but are replicas of antiques with no connection to Illinois and so do not further the Museum's mission. One item from the collection is currently featured in the history exhibit *At Home in the Heartland* but the rest of the collection has never been on display. Roger moved to deaccession the Hunter Collection barring the one item in the exhibit. Tamira seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

VII. Old Business

Donna called for old business.

VIII. Public Comment

None present.

The Board adjourned for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

IX. Museum Tour

The Board was led on a tour of Museum exhibits by curators Meredith Mahoney, Erika Holst, and Doug Stapleton.

X. Adjournment

Sarah asked for a motion to adjourn. Roger moved to adjourn the meeting, Tamira seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 pm.