

**Illinois State Museum
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
2:30 p.m., April 26, 2019
Research & Collections Center**

Attending: Chair Dr. Lorin Nevling, Vice Chair Leo Welch; Board members Mrs. Donna Sack, Dr. David Sokol, Mr. Roger Taylor, and Mrs. Rosemary Winters participated by phone; Museum Staff Ms. Karen Everingham, Mrs. Tracy Pierceall; Department of Natural Resources Staff Mr. Chris Young.

1. Call to Order

Dr. Lorin Nevling called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. He asked for a motion to approve phone participation for Mrs. Rosemary Winters. Dr. David Sokol so moved, Mr. Leo Welch seconded, and the motion carried.

Dr. Nevling reported that long-time Board member and Chair Mr. Guerry Suggs passed away. He added Mr. Suggs had served on the Board for twenty-two years and, prior to that, he also served on the Society Board. He added that Mr. Suggs was removed by Governor Rauner, along with Director Dr. Bonnie Styles, for their opposition to the Museum closure. He was an extraordinary advocate for the Museum and a force within the community. A moment of silence was observed.

Dr. Nevling also shared that he brought a copy of the *Illinois Heritage* magazine, noting they did a nice article on former Museum Librarian Virginia Eifert.

2. Director Search Committee Report

Dr. Nevling asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to consider the Director Search Committee Report. Mr. Roger Taylor so moved, Dr. Sokol seconded, and the Board went into Executive Session at 2:39 p.m.

Dr. Sokol moved to exit Executive Session, Mr. Taylor seconded, and the motion carried. The session was closed at 2:45 p.m.

3. Interim Director Report

Interim Director Sill reported that he formed a Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Committee including Chair Dr. Brooke Morgan, Dr. Duane Esarey, Mrs. DeeAnn Watt, Ms. Dawn Cobb, Mr. Chris Young representing DNR, and Mr. Taylor will serve as the Board liaison. Mr. Sill noted that a letter outlining the scope of the committee has been written. Dr. Sokol said it was a strong and well-written letter. Dr. Nevling clarified the discussion served as background for the next Board meeting.

Dr. Nevling noted there was a Freedom of Information Act request regarding NAGPRA correspondence amongst staff and Board Members. He said that DNR Legal is handling the matter in concert with Museum staff. He noted that this prompted the discussion of the use of a confidentiality statement on Board Museum related correspondence. He said the matter was shared with DNR attorney Mr. George Sisk who advised the Board to add such a statement to all Museum related email correspondence. Dr. Sokol asked what such a statement would include. Ms. Everingham said she would share the statement that is used for State employees with the Board.

4. Adjournment

Dr. Nevling asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Taylor so moved, Mr. Welch seconded, and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Approved:

Dr. Lorin Nevling, Chair

Date

Dr. Brian Anderson, Secretary

Date