Minutes of the Whitaker Museum Board meeting held Tuesday, August 21, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the Business Office Conference Room at City Hall, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT
Diane Chamberlain
Mel Miles
Spencer Packer, Chair
Nancy Smith
Paul Thomas Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT
Carol Bake

STAFF PRESENT
Stephanie Ivie, City Council Liaison, arrived at 5:20 p.m.
Lisa Linn Sommer, Museum Director
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Minutes of the July 31, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Mel Miles made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Diane Chamberlain seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Lisa Linn Sommer, Museum Director, reported the furniture for the BH Roberts exhibit has been placed in the Museum for the exhibit, and the furniture will be returned to the storage container when the exhibit is over. The bed at the exhibit is fake, and there will be a sign informing people not to sit on the bed. The biography of B H Roberts that was authored by Richard Roberts will be sold for $25.00. Lisa will take posters advertising the exhibit to churches in Centerville to be displayed. After the exhibit is over, the Museum will be cleaned at a cost of $500. The bid for the Museum storage container is $3,400, and Chair Packer advised that there not be ventilation in the storage container. Lisa will verify if the storage unit without ventilation will damage the furniture.

Bruce Cox, Parks and Recreation Director, spoke with Steve Thacker, City Manager, about having the Parks Department install a sprinkler system and remove the succor trees by the south fence next to the car wash. Mr. Thacker approved this request, and there should be enough money in the RAP Tax to cover the expense for this project. The trees were removed because they were raising the asphalt and fence, and the blue posts were also removed.
The meeting with the Parks Department to discuss the landscaping plans for the Museum grounds will be held on November 27, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. At the October meeting, the Board will discuss the landscaping plans for the gardens. Paul Thomas Smith reported he has been researching the native plants that might have been planted on the Museum grounds, and he distributed a list of the plants.

At 5:20 p.m., Stephanie Ivie, City Council Liaison, arrived at the meeting.

Mr. Smith reported that in 2010, Richard Whitaker Chase submitted a landscaping plan for the Museum, and he emailed Mr. Smith a copy of the plans. Lisa Linn Sommer requested that a long term landscaping plan be made for the Parks Department. The Parks Department has time to plant mulberry trees along the south fence. The Board discussed planting male Mulberry trees next to the south fence by the car wash. Nancy Smith requested that more discussion take place on the planting of trees at this location.

Chair Packer made a motion to continue with planting the mulberry trees on the south side of the Museum grounds next to the car wash fence. Mel Miles seconded the motion, which was passed by a vote of (4-1). Nancy Smith was the dissenting vote.

Lisa Linn Sommer said she found a contact for the kitchen stove to be refurbished. The stove will be an electric oven with a gas top. The man will be coming in September to pick-up the stove. It will cost $3,500 to restore the stove, and $1,200 labor for a total cost of $5,600. It will be finished in the summer of 2019. The Whitaker Museum Board agreed to have the stove retrofitted to a gas stove.

Lisa Linn Sommer reported there is currently no WIFI at the Museum, which means there is no phone service. This has been a continual problem for several years. Nancy Smith said when she was considering UTOPIA for her home, she was told there is not enough capacity for the Museum. Stephanie Ivie, City Council Liaison, said she will talk to Lisa Bednar about this problem. Lisa said two surveillance cameras are needed at the Museum. Lisa received an email from the State informing her that CLG grants will not be awarded unless there is a before and after photo of the project. The Garden Barbeque was held last week, and there were 30 people in attendance.

**BOARD REPORTS**

Paul Thomas Smith reported the Thomas Whitaker DVD is in post-production. Mr. Smith will be doing the Storytelling events at the Museum for September and October.

Chair Packer reported he met with a blacksmith in Salt Lake City regarding the hinges and handles for the carriage doors. They will be farmhouse style and butt plates will also be added. Chair Packer is waiting for a quote on the plates. He will also ask for a quote on eye hooks that would be placed in the brick or stone above the doors to hang banners.
NEXT MEETING

The next Whitaker Museum Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall.

ADJOURN

At 5:50 p.m., Mel Miles made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Smith seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (5-0).

Chair Spencer Packer

Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: 10-26-2018
B. H. Roberts and the Whitaker Connection

It is common knowledge that after B. H. Roberts arrived in Davis County from England, at age 14 he was sent to the Dry Canyon mining camp of Ophir. He worked for a time with miners exploring for silver in the west mountains. His association with those men led to several bad habits, including chewing tobacco, drinking coffee and whiskey. "Big Ben" Maynard, a desperado from Texas, befriended Henry, and took him to watch as he gunned down men. Henry packed in drinking water by burros, served as an errand boy, handyman, and prospector.

Edwin D. Woolley, Henry's bishop, disfellowshipped him. Elder George A. Smith met him on the street. "Henry, I understand you've been cut off from the Church." "So?" "Well, what are you going to do about it?" "Nothing. If Bishop Woolley wants me out of the Church, then I'm out of the Church." "Well then," said Elder Smith, "you're on your way to hell." That got to him. Henry appealed the decision. Bishop Woolley said, "I move that Henry Roberts be restored to full faith and fellowship."

He decided to forego his association with the miners. But "my mining encampment life followed me." He lamented that "the good boys didn't want me; I did not want the bad ones, so I stayed to myself." He reluctantly became an apprentice to a blacksmith named James Henry Baird, and boarded with the Baird family for nearly three years. But he gained a lasting friendship with John M. Whitaker, who lived nearby.

John Whitaker was a self-taught stenographer. He was hired to work in the Church Historian's Office, as well as for the Seventy. "From the late 1880s on, John M. Whitaker was a close secretarial and administrative aide to Roberts himself, as a scribe, proofreader, copist, and manager of affairs. 'I am fortunate,' Whitaker wrote fifteen years later, 'to have his complete confidence.' John was one of the few individuals "who ever enjoyed intimate conversations and camaraderie with Roberts."

"John's mother was the second positive influence from that household. She became the adoptive godmother to Robert's own children. "How I loved her for all she had done for my family," he said in 1889," pp. 74-75.

"On Sunday, October 7, 1888, at the age of thirty-one, B. H. Roberts was sustained as a new member of the First Council of the Seventy in general conference. Two days later, Elder Lorenzo Snow of the Council of the Twelve, ordained Roberts one of the seven presidents. The ordination took place at the Church Historian's Office." —p. 180

"John Whitaker subscribed to many British journals and newspapers. He took notes (half in Pitman shorthand) and supplied Roberts with all the speeches of Edmund Burke as well as the details of the great debates and political trends worldwide." p. 78

"His earliest office as a Church authority was in the Constitution Building across from the ZCMI department store on Main Street. This was known as the "new office." Later he moved into the new six-story granite Church Administration Building at 47 East South Temple." 203