

GAR Commission—City of Aurora Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2023

Present: Commissioners Michael Sawdey (Chair), Janice Lindley, Spiros Koliopoulos, Al Signorelli, and City of Aurora: Eric Pry, Curator. **Excused Absence:** Gerald Butters, Phil Pogue and Jared Ploger

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.
- II. **Approval of January 18, 2022, minutes.** After brief discussion and review, a motion was made by and seconded to approve the minutes. None opposed. Motion Carried
- III. **Updates from Curator Eric Pry**
 - Chandelier – expected to be completed by the end of April or May before the next commissioner meeting.
 - AASLH program participation – silver collection management, need to create collection development plan; corrections to procedure manual.
 - Considering Midwest Association of Museum – not a lot, another one to get awards.
 - Steps setup success accreditation
 - Curator Pry taking courses AASLH Small Museum Pro. Certification
 - Staff – Elizabeth leaving March 23rd. Looking for new person, also discussed museum position and benefits.
- IV. **Discussion items:**
 - First reading of review revision of “Mission, Vision, Values”
 - Dig Box Program – box sand has a #, will get a folder with a photo. They find in display upstairs and write a blurb about. Condition report. Build museums around objects.
 - Museum-in-a-Box program – rent out 2-3 weeks, box with item. Box focus is area soldiers, Aurora during conflict.
 - Discussed Donor Policy – motion made by Commissioner Lindley and seconded by Commissioner Signorelli to approve. Motion unanimously approved.
 - Collection Policy – 1st review with changes and mission policy update. Next meeting to accept and will have a cleaned-up copy.
 - Mission Vision & Value – was reviewed and discussed with changes suggested in the Inclusivity section. Possible: returning servicemen and hang to “white dominated majority culture”.
 - SharePoint – commissioners now have access. Information not yet received, need IT. Curator Pry will send instructions on how to view and upload documents.
 - Sentry light – Light for Sentry will be done as soon as can.
 - Cannon – is the next step, waiting for better weather.
- V. **Ideas for programs and exhibits at museum were discussed.**
 - 2024 WWI Trench – next year 110 anniversary or delay till 2028
 - 2025 WWII – Part with Michael – narrative
 - 2026 Pearl Harbor
 - 2027 Star Wars
- VI. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Commission, motion made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Lindley,
Secretary, G.A.R. Commission