

## **GAR Commission—City of Aurora Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2022**

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

**Absent:** Commissioners: Michael Collins, Mary Ann Signorelli, and Gerald Butters

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:56 p.m.

II. **Approval of April 13, 2022, minutes.** After brief discussion and review. A motion made by Commissioner Al Signorelli to approve the minutes and seconded by Commissioner Phil Pogue. Minutes unanimously approved.

III. **Updates Eric** -Elizabeth Moreno is the new Museum Assistant.

**Remaining IDNR grant expenditures:** Bluestone will revise/repair upstairs exhibits, including revising the cases for easier access (about \$107K total). The audio system will also be upgraded. Painting the Angel Room will come to about \$26K. The reproduction chandelier will be about \$33-38K.

IV. **Discussion items/New business:**

a. Parade participation/activities this year—Memorial Day, Fourth of July. Vehicle and previous parade participation was discussed. Veterans Day Parade was briefly discussed

b. Revision of mission statement – briefly discussed will revisit next meeting. In the meantime, Commissioner Michael Sawdey will send out what he has.

V. **Member reports: Events, activities, projects, needs, issues, etc.**

a. Discussed where veterans are buried and that it would be nice to document.

VI. **Sentry** – both back in July? Will be installed through local vendor.

VII. **Signage** will take up last \$20,000. Hopefully all done by fall.

VIII. **Grand reopening** possibly 4<sup>th</sup> of July, catered event

IX. Grant for collection room did not apply by the deadline, perhaps for next year.

X. **Future building for G.A.R.** 4000 sq. ft. Will be for G.A.R collection and City Clerk Archives. Dedicated space with small office, climate controlled. Research and Archive space. Hopefully enough for future 10 years.

XI. **Cannon carriage** back from Ottawa. Put north wall to cover electrical. Plan is concrete pad for it.

XII. **Summer Camps** coming up – July 16<sup>th</sup> and one (1) day in Auguste. For students explore and learn.

XIII. **Other Business/future agendas:**

June 14, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. G.A.R. will host U.S. Army's birthday, event is semi-private.

**Next meeting's agenda:**

- Mission statement

There being no further business before the Commission, motion made by Al Signorelli to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2022.

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