



Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

Rochester Hills Museum Foundation

*Bryan Barnett, Steven Fite, James Mallon, Carol Morlan, Vern Pixley,
Katharine Altherr-Rogers, Heather Sellick, Joe Snyder, Suzanne Wiggins;
Staff Advisor Pat McKay*

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*Foundation Mission: The mission of the Rochester Hills Museum Foundation is to further
the educational programs and purposes set forth by the
Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.*

*Museum Mission: To enhance understanding of the past through interpreting, preserving
and collecting the history of the greater Rochester area for present and future generations.*

Friday, August 16, 2024

7:30 AM

Rochester Hills Museum at
Van Hoosen Farm - Dairy Barn

CALL TO ORDER

*James Mallon called the Rochester Hills Museum Foundation Board Meeting to
order at 7:30 a.m., Michigan Time.*

ROLL CALL

Present 7 - James Mallon, Katharine Altherr-Rogers, Heather Sellick, Suzanne
Wiggins, Bryan Barnett, Carol Morlan and Vern Pixley

Absent 2 - Steven Fite and Joe Snyder

Others Present:

*Cathy Fitzpatrick, Museum Program Coordinator
Patrick McKay, Museum Manager*

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[2024-0395](#)

Attachments: [Meeting Draft 05-17-24.pdf](#)
[Meeting Master 05-17-24.pdf](#)

**A motion was made by Wiggins, seconded by Morlan, that this matter be
Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Aye 7 - Mallon, Altherr-Rogers, Sellick, Wiggins, Barnett, Morlan and Pixley

Absent 2 - Fite and Snyder

Approval of Minutes - Rochester Hills Museum Foundation - May 17, 2024

MUSEUM OPERATIONS UPDATE - Pat McKay

Pat McKay updated the group. They have been working on their disaster plan, including fire extinguisher training. They also had a few rain incidents which ended up flooding the basement of the Equipment Barn 2 times within a few weeks. The gardens have been growing well because of all the rain. Many maintenance items were taken care of this summer.

MUSEUM UPDATES - Cathy Fitzpatrick

Cathy Fitzpatrick discussed Wet and Wild Wednesdays. They have made some tweaks to the parking situation. Week one they had over 900 people, week two was cancelled due to rains, weeks 3 and 4 had awesome turnouts too. She also mentioned that more people are paying with credit cards for programs than with cash. Many programs have run successfully year after year. She discussed community partnerships and new experiences and programs. She also discussed summer camp; campers suggested having a camp for older kids. Vintage Base Ball is always a success as well. Fitzpatrick discussed upcoming events.

Pat McKay discussed the History Minute. Morris Place visited recently. His father was the farm manager at the Van Hoosen Farm for nearly 50 years. He donated a milk bottle carrier on his most recent visit. Morris is 88 years old now. McKay also mentioned another donation, an 1818 chest of drawers that was originally in the Van Hoosen Farmhouse. He also mentioned his trip to pick up more of the Broomfield collection back in May. Discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding 2024 -2025 Endowment Fundraising Campaign.

Committee members: Jim Mallon, Carol Morlan, Heather Sellick, Kathie Rogers, Suzanne Wiggins

Pat McKay suggested a fall membership volunteer night to show appreciation for the volunteers. He suggested celebrating 45 years of the Museum. We are asking for some money from City Council for updates to things such as lighting. There are not many "showy" things that we are looking to improve at this point. This summer they focused on acquiring more members through programs such as Wet & Wild Wednesdays.

Suzanne Wiggins discussed why endowment is important. Pat McKay discussed donor lists and where those names come from. Out current lists are people that are either members already or visit the museum for programs. McKay mentioned testimonials for a media campaign. Carol Morlan mentioned that every community has a unique story and Rochester Hills is incredible, she would not have known as much without being a part of the Board. Discussion ensued.

Bryan Barnett discussed things you need to be successful in a fundraising campaign. How do we spread this message; how do we take it to the next level? We have the support and have done well with the resources we currently have. He thinks the number is right and the impact will be pretty dramatic. Heather Sellick mentioned a matching collaboration with Park Davis or another company. Barnett talked about the connections everyone already has and getting them in contact with Pat McKay to continue discussions. Barnett posed the question "is there one person in your life that you could introduce to Pat?" Discussion ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING DATE

Friday, November 15, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, James Mallon adjourned the meeting at 8:52 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Megan Stencil.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the _____, 2025 Regular Museum Foundation Board Meeting.

James Mallon, Chairperson