

## COUNTY INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

**PRESENT:** J. Minner, C. Dutton, M. Madison, N. Petrillo, R. Wesley, L. Dalton

**ABSENT:** M. Holliday, K. Novacich-Koberna

**OTHERS:** R. Werden, C. Gagich, S. Hansen, C. Cohan, J. Parkin, C. Ellis, S. Mudge, B. Lavite

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

S. Hansen, MCHS, presented an invitation to “A Chautauqua with Mark Twain & Friends” on September 21, 2019. He also gave a progress update on the Museum. Mr. Hansen said they have done a needs assessment, repaired the roof, restored the dormer and chimney, replaced the HVAC and removed wallpaper. Next, the electrical will be upgraded, windows and doors will be restored, paint will be completely removed on the exterior, tuck-pointing, brick repair and back porch repair. So far, \$575k has been spent and will be applying for a Tourism Grant of \$120k. Mr. Hansen said they have raised \$729,938.00 in private funds for the renovation.

S. Mudge, MCHS, reported the Trivia Night had a great turnout.

**\*L. Dalton is now present.**

Mr. Madison moved, seconded by Mr. Wesley to approve the July meeting minutes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

### **EDUCATION:**

R. Werden attended his first County Institutions Committee meeting and provided the committee his Activities & Services report. He said the staff has done a great job in getting him acclimated and has been preparing for the start of the school year. Mr. Werden announced Anthony Smith, the new principal at the Troy CEO School and gave a brief explanation of Mr. Smith’s experience in the field of Education. He also noted that the teacher shortage is ongoing and is especially hard to fill positions in special education. Brief discussion was held on why the demand and supply of teachers has changed so drastically over the years. Ms. Gagich noted the Teachers Retirement System has implemented a Retiree Return to Work Program which allows retired individuals to return to work full time without penalizing their pensions. She also noted a change in legislation that removed the basic skills test for entry into the education field. Mr. Werden brought attention to a new state law that has changed the minimum salary to \$40k and had discussion on the affect that change could have along with a new law that allows students teacher to be paid. Ms. Gagich mentioned there are a few services that are not included on the report such as Detention Center services and summer camps.

### **MUSEUM:**

J. Parkin reported that on Friday, an architect from Bailey Edward came and did an assessment of the roof and reported that a 3<sup>rd</sup> party may be necessary at this point. They are collecting electrical bids and have been working on building assessments to develop a site plan. Mr. Parkin said he has submitted a Capital Outlay request for \$150k to address major issues that could threaten the safety of the Museum’s inventory if not taken care of. A modern day Chautauqua will be held on September 21<sup>st</sup> and Madison County History Week starts on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Discussion was held on the dangers of nitrate negatives; Mr. Parkin, Dr. Hansen and Dr. Clouse took nitrate negatives to SIUE for review and found that a few are starting to deteriorate so once they have the chance to see if they have prints of the negatives, they will be properly disposed of. He reported they are asking for \$266,665.58 for the FY2020 budget.

### **CHILD ADVOCACY:**

C. Cohan shared a story of a case that came through the CAC; please refer to the audio for the details of that story. Ms. Cohan reported the Governor signed House Bill 909 which included an exemption in FOIA for CAC interviews. Ms. Cohan stated they received an opportunity to increase their FY19 VOCA grant to apply for equipment dollars in which they will be using to install a security system in the Therapy Wing of the Center. She said 80% of the security system will be paid from the grant and 20% will be paid from the Friends Organization. Reaccreditation of the Center is September 25<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Cohan said she submitted a budget that is similar to last years and noted the salary portion will decrease by \$60k due to 3 grants; 2 Regional Local Foundation Grants and 1 Friends Organization Grant.

### **MENTAL HEALTH:**

A Mental Health report was submitted to the committee before the meeting. N. Petrillo added they have taken 6 applicants from the original 38 and interviewed 5 of them; they could not make contact with the 6<sup>th</sup> applicant. The interview process consisted of a rubric style assessment.

### **VETERANS' ASSISTANCE:**

B. Lavite clarified that the National Strategy to Prevent Veteran Suicide goes in 10 year cycles so it will be ongoing until 2028; the current discussions taking place right now is for the planning phase for the next 10 years. He reiterated that once the national strategy is developed and the funding starts, it will be one of the largest pushes of federal dollars into local communities. He expressed the importance of other offices taking the initiative to see what they can do to help veterans in crisis. Mr. Lavite said they are currently at full capacity with community outreach and have a 2-3 week waiting list but through the help of various offices with varying audiences, help can be given in a multitude of ways. On August 31<sup>st</sup>, there will be a march starting at the Bethalto High School going to Parkside Elementary where the Vietnam Traveling Wall will be setup for 5 days and be available for viewing 24 hours a day. Very brief discussion took place about the Veteran Hospital and how veteran services in Illinois have decreased in the last 20 years.

Ms. Dalton moved, seconded by Mr. Wesley, to approve the bills for the month. The ayes and nays are being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: C. Dutton, M. Madison, N. Petrillo, R. Wesley, L. Dalton NAYS: None.

### **PURCHASE REQUEST:**

The following purchase request was presented:

1. (CAC) Access Control and iPhone Additon to S2 Security System. **The cost is \$9,372.00.**

Ms. Dalton moved, seconded by Mr. Madison, to approve the purchase request as presented. The ayes and nays are being called on the motion to approve resulted in a vote as follows: AYES: C. Dutton, M. Madison, N. Petrillo, R. Wesley, L. Dalton NAYS: None.

Mr. Petrillo moved, seconded by Mr. Wesley to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

/mds