

SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees was held on July 10, 2001 in the Planetarium lobby, Centerport, New York.

The following were in attendance:

Dr. Steven Gittelman – President
Carl Luecke – 2nd Vice President
Marjorie Kossoy Fuhrmann – Secretary
Donna deLuca Periconi – Trustee
William Rogers – Trustee
Michael Broxmeyer – Trustee
Bertram E. Seides – Trustee
Edward Hahn – Trustee
J. Lance Mallamo – Executive Director
Gail Freeman – Todd Shapiro Associates
Florence Ogg – Staff
Stephanie Gress – Staff
Maryann Zakshevsky – Staff
Wendy O'Donohoe – Staff
Mark McHugh – Staff
David Bush – Staff
Barbara Oster – Staff
Elizabeth McQuenney – Staff
Ann Marie Pastore – Stenographer

Absent:

Gary C. Fischhoff
Dr. Anthony Pecorale
Robert LaBua
Timothy Votapka
R. Douglas Shaw
Susan LeBow

(Dr. Gittelman called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.)

DR. GITTELMAN:

Good evening. This is a regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees. Do we have a short list of guests?

MS. PASTORE:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you. Thank you for attending. Are there any guests that wish to make comments or ask questions? If not, thank you for attending. Approval of the minutes, Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I move that the minutes be approved with minor corrections.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Can I have a second?

MR. BROXMEYER:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Would you please give us your corrections?

MS. FUHRMANN:

On page six the third paragraph from the bottom, the word admission should be mission. Also on page six I believe it's at the very bottom, the last paragraph, Woods Hole is two words. W-o-o-d-s H-o-l-e, as in a place in the ground. That's it on the corrections.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I have a motion to approve the minutes. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?
It passes unanimously. (Vote: 8/0/0/6 Absent: Mr. Fischhoff, Dr. Pecorale, Mr. LaBua, Mr. Votapka, Mr. Shaw & Ms. LeBow)

We'll skip the Public Relation's Report until the representative from Todd Shapiro gets here. Education and Exhibits, do you want to skip, Marge?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Is Stephanie back?

DR. GITTELMAN:

We'll go on and then we'll come back to it.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Okay.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Development, Carl Luecke and Mike Broxmeyer.

MR. BROXMEYER:

I think I have spoken with everyone here, but the event is August 3, "Cocktails with Cole Porter." The invitations went out on Friday. Everyone on the list, which I think everyone got a copy of or should have a copy of, everyone on that list received the invitations. So if you have submitted a list to Rita or Betsy, please follow up with your contacts to make sure tickets are sold and we have attendance at the event.

Just to reiterate, we are looking for a minimum of \$2,000 per Trustee. I think that that should be able to be obtained. If anyone is concerned about that, please let me know, and we can discuss it and maybe come up with some ways to achieve that amount. With the \$2,000 per Trustee and the work that Lance will do, I am comfortable that we will achieve the numbers we're targeting as well as the number of people we want to have at the event. Carl and I will be following up constantly for the next three weeks to make sure we have a number of people at the event. We're looking to have 300 to 400 people. We need to make a lot of phone calls and start to get people to attend the event. It will be a very good event. Donna, if you want to talk about what you have planned for it, you can, just to tell everyone about it.

MS. PERICONI:

I mentioned last time that it's a wonderful quartet. In fact, I met with them this afternoon and went through some of their selections. They are very well known in Manhattan. Madeline Cole herself will be singing only Cole Porter. As I mentioned, we will have film clips projected on walls of the courtyard from "Broadway Melodies," from "High Society," from "Can-Can," "Silk Stockings," and other great Cole Porter movies. I think it should be quite lovely.

MR. BROXMEYER:

If anyone needs extra invitations to send out, Lance has a bunch of invitations available. That is my report for tonight.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you. We can go back now to Public Relations.

MS. FREEMAN:

Good evening. I'm Gail Freeman with Todd Shapiro Associates. Todd is ill this evening, so he won't be attending. In front of you is the report from May through June. We do have some video footage as well, about five minutes' worth. We're working hard on a combination of the upcoming dinosaur exhibit as well as

“Cocktails with Cole Porter,” and all of the events throughout the summer, the entertainment as well as the tours and focusing on individuals and people as well. If you look through, we did have pretty extensive Newsday coverage, and we increased our radio coverage as well. We should do very well for the rest of the summer. I think we’ll see an incredible increase. We’re working very hard. Without delay, the video tape.

VIDEO PRESENTATION 7:45 – 7:50 P.M.

6/26/01	NY-55	Million Dollar Donation – Dinosaur Exhibit
6/26/01	LI News Tonight	Million Dollar Donation – Dinosaur Exhibit
6/28/01	NY-55	Vanderbilt Planetarium’s 30th Anniversary

DR. GITTELMAN:

Anything else? There were other articles in some of the weeklies that I recall, at least three different weeklies that aren’t in the packet.

MS. FREEMAN:

I’m sure that they’re upcoming from the clipping service. They are forthcoming. They do the listings quicker than the articles so they should be in the next packet for the next Board Meeting. My apologies.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That would be good to give us a sense of what’s been going on. Education and Exhibits, Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I’ll start but I don’t see Stephanie.

MR. MALLAMO:

I’ll see if I can find her.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We’ll go ahead to something else. It’s all right.

MR. MALLAMO:

I believe she went to get invitations.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Finance Committee, Lance?

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, the Finance Committee – Tony is not with us. We are on target in our financial plan, and within the budget, our revenues and admissions continue to

be good. We have had a number of major expenses in May, but these were planned expenses and I think we can see the fiscal improvements on the property that we had intended to make for not only the 30th anniversary of the Planetarium but in preparation of our reaccreditation.

We have also submitted a response to the audit completed by Suffolk County, and we have a copy of that in all of your packets. We look forward to having an exit conference with the Department of Audit and Control. That should be complete. Thank you.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Any questions or comments? Thank you, Lance. Gary Fischhoff was unable to make it tonight. Is there anything from the Personnel Committee, Lance, that you know of?

MR. MALLAMO:

No.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Well, we –

DR. GITTELMAN:

Go ahead.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I don't know if we forgot –

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, would you like to do that? You're a member of the committee. Well, I'll do it then.

MS. FUHRMANN:

You do it.

MR. MALLAMO:

I'd like to announce formally that Mark McHugh has been named Curator of Planetary Science here at the Planetarium. He was our Acting Curator for several months, and we're pleased that he has been named the official Curator of Planetary Science here at the Planetarium. You have been a great addition to the staff. I want to also note David and Lorraine when we had a major problem this week when our Goto projector suddenly lost all of its stars, and we thought we had a big disaster, but within a day they were able to get it right back to square one. That was a great effort on all their parts, and I want to commend them. Mark, officially, I would like to welcome you as our permanent Curator.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's great. Buildings and Grounds.

MR. SEIDES:

The Buildings and Grounds Committee consists of Bill Macchione and myself. We had several tours of the grounds by Bill Dieck. We had the pleasure of meeting Walter DeGroot of DeGroot Historical Restoration. He has been working on the rose garden pool, which is completed, the T-pool, which is completed, the dolphin fountain, which is now working and completed. They are about to begin work on the sundial fountain. They have previously completed repairs to the bell tower roof and the Lancaster roof to stop leaks.

Additionally, the following work is either completed or underway. We observed the powerhouse, which has been painted by support through the DOL. It sets off the two turbines beautifully. The Planetarium has also been painted by support through the DOL, which includes the furnace room. The DOL is now working on painting the ironwork on the back of the mansion. We have observed the cottage for the proposed Egyptian exhibit and this building is in excellent condition and dry.

We went down to the seaplane hangar, and on our way down we noticed that work was being done on the surveillance cameras, of which there are 16. They are all up and working. Down at the seaplane hangar we observed the electrical installation that is up to code and has been in place for about five years now. However, it was brought to our attention that there have been some updates and upgrades on that new system. The seaplane hangar's security system is now being managed by Simplex. The security system was installed about two years ago, and is working correctly.

While we were down at the seaplane hangar we observed the condition of the bulkhead and the waterfront conditions of the seaplane hangar ramp and so forth. We know they are scheduled for restoration and rehabilitation in the near future, and we will stay on top of that.

The mansion, planetarium, powerhouse, the bell tower, and the Hall of Fishes have all received maintenance and new coats of paint over the last couple of years and are in excellent condition.

The installation of the new brick courtyard at the Planetarium here and the walkways to the mansion, that project is well underway. There are a few sections that still have been brought to our attention that will be completed. I just want to thank Lance for the way the courtyard looks. It keeps shaping up and looking better. Thank you, and thank you certainly to the Buildings and Grounds who you worked with out there.

The peacock house is being restored by a local boy scout. We did have the opportunity to observe what he was doing. It is coming back together and looks like we're going to have a great little project completed soon down there.

The Buildings and Grounds' crew are doing a great job in tackling new areas all the time. They are to be commended; their dedication and attention to detail around the estate is apparent.

This completes the Buildings and Grounds' Report for July 10.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you. Any questions or comments? Thank you very much. Membership Committee, Doug Shaw is absent.

MR. MALLAMO:

Doug is not here tonight. Our membership continues to do well. We are initiating a new category of membership for educators, which we hope to send out with the education packets, which usually go out a little bit later in the summer to inaugurate the school program for the school year 2001-2002. We will be giving educators special discounts on memberships as well as special incentives where their membership can assist them in bringing their students to the Vanderbilt Museum. This was a new category. It worked well at the High Museum in Atlanta. It was very successful for them, so we're going to try to implement it here.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Any questions or comments? If not, thank you. Dinosaur Committee, Ed Hahn.

MR. HAHN:

One of the final issues with respect to the whole project regarding insurance has been resolved, so we are full speed ahead. As we speak, the dinosaurs are being herded on to the trucks or are in transit over to the site. The tent or bubble is in the process of being erected. The opening day for the exhibit is July 17. There is going to be a press conference that day, a big to-do. July 18 is the opening of Jurassic Park III, I believe, so that should coincide quite nicely with the opening of the movie. So we've got about a week, a little bit more than a week for the exhibit to be set up and brought up to speed for the public. The committee will be following that and reporting back at the next meeting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

The press conference is when?

MR. MALLAMO:

Friday. There is a press conference on the construction of the exhibit on Friday. That was scheduled for today, Gail, I believe.

MS. FREEMAN:

No, there was a change because the T-Rex that's coming out on Friday, according to Ray Ann. So we will have press coverage on Friday because that's the big event.

MR. MALLAMO:

And then we will have press coverage on Tuesday, as well. Isn't that right, Gail?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Because that's the opening?

MR. MALLAMO:

It's kind of a preview for press. Is that correct?

MS. FREEMAN:

I was under the impression that it's the 18th even though there was a –

DR. GITTELMAN:

So was I.

MS. FREEMAN:

That's why I was concerned why you said that because there was one Newsday article that did publish way back when the 17th, but all other sources had said the 18th. As far as I know, it's the 18th.

MR. HAHN:

I stand corrected.

MR. MALLAMO:

I was under the impression that the press day was going to be the 17th, that's what I was told last.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Can we get this nailed down and circulate this among all the Trustees so that those who wish to attend the press conference and the opening can be there.

MS. FREEMAN:

Absolutely.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Given the date we ought to do that.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, we'll do that tomorrow.

DR. GITTELMAN:
Anything else, Ed?

MR. HAHN:
I believe that's it.

DR. GITTELMAN:
My understanding is that they have gotten a few of the actors from the first movie to do appearances if not at the opening, down the line.

MR. HAHN:
You mean human actors or –

DR. GITTELMAN:
Human actors. It should be fun.

MR. HAHN:
Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:
Lance, Director's Report.

MS. FUHRMANN:
Stephanie is here now.

DR. GITTELMAN:
Okay, Marge, let's go back to Education and Exhibits.

MS. FUHRMANN:
Thank you, Steve. At the end of our report, we're going to be asking the Trustees to vote on the accession of two separate categories. One is we will be bringing back the accession of the birds that we tabled last month. We will also be asking you to accession a camera collection. The information for the camera collection was just passed out to you, and the bird information should have been in your folders.

But to begin, Sal St. George is in the process of rehearsal for a broadcast this weekend of a radio show of a 1939 interview with people of the World's Fair of 1939. There is going to be information, music, and commercials, all dating back from that time. This will start this Sunday, and it will be the next couple of weekends they will be putting this on for us.

The next meeting of LIMA will be September 10. It will be at the museums formerly known as the Stony Brook Museums on Route 25A. It's the annual conference of LIMA. There is going to be a lawyer who is speaking on copyright and trade agreements. This attorney has done some work for the Vanderbilt

Museum. Gary Fischhoff of our Trustees had recommended this person who will be speaking at the conference.

The second conference will be a panel of three people who will talk on development of professionals and careers within museums.

Our donations and our loans are both up. Since the decision was made to have 1939 be the focus year for next year, these donations and loans will come in handy again.

We have lent to the museum formerly known as the Stony Brook Museums Vanderbilt Cup Race things for their exhibits on car racing on Long Island. This is an example of museum cooperation, which we find to be important.

The mylar folder project with the original plans and the Belanske prints have been completed. Everything is now in mylar and will be photographed and copied for our archives.

Betsy has been concentrating her efforts on researching the taxonomy of shells and invertebrates. There has been an intern hired to do this. This work is necessary for reaccreditation. She is also spending a great deal of her time in planning the Cole Porter event.

The butterfly catalog has been completed.

The current issue of the Vanderbilt newsletter will be going out shortly.

The 30th anniversary party for the Planetarium was very successful. The Mars show was shown for the first time at its premiere and has been very well received. The schedule of school shows is being revised for the 2001-2002 school year. Work is continuing to prepare for reaccreditation.

A member of staff attended the New York City Museum Education Roundtable at the Guggenheim. There was a video conferencing workshop. It took in most of the east coast and gave us some very good ideas for the future. Right now we don't have the technology to participate in video conferencing.

As a follow-up on things that we have talked about in the past, we have received a reply from the Tiger Wood's Foundation, which we are pursuing. They gave us a booklet on how to apply officially for a grant. Just to remind the Trustees, these grants will be used to transport children to the Museum from school districts who cannot afford to rent buses.

We have also approached the For All Kids Foundation from Rosie O'Donnell, who was a Commack resident when she was growing up on Long Island. This is

to receive funding so that we can transport children here who cannot afford to get here other ways.

The school brochure for the 2001-2002 year is in production. The projection is it will be out in a timely basis.

We did get our marine permit from Woods Hole. The Riverhead Foundation is sending us marine mammals in August for our display. We have 76 children attending camp here for four weeks. They are living in Polynesia.

As Lance mentioned previously, a letter has gone out to educators offering them membership at a discount of 20 percent and the corresponding discount of 10 percent in the gift shop, if they choose to join.

Last month we reported that we had contacted Dr. Vincent Stefan of Lehman College. I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Stefan has agreed to donate his services to try to create a facial reproduction of the mummy for our use.

The information in the lobby that you see around you will be changing in August. There will be an emphasis on Mars. We will be having Lego pieces set up, and also we're getting Jupiter and Jupiter's moons, which will be hung in the area that used to have "Weight of the World."

In December there will be a joint project between Cornell Cooperative and the Museum during the school break. The nature of the project has not as yet been disclosed. Three members of our staff, Mark, Lorraine, and David, are working with Cornell right now in planning this school break program.

Now to the accessions, let's do the cameras first because I think it's – or would you rather – why don't we have Stephanie explain the numbering system. As you may recall, we had tabled this discussion last month because there were some board questions regarding how the numbers translate to information. Stephanie has agreed to enlighten us.

MS. GRESS:

The process of accessioning simply assures that the collection pieces will be an official part of the Museum and an official part of the Vanderbilt collection. Now it assures that the piece will be cared for and conserved in a proper way. If the piece is not accessioned, in other words, you can't get funding or you can't expend any resources to care for the piece, if it's not an accessioned piece.

The accession number is a three-part number. The first part of the number is the year in which it's accessioned. Now it doesn't reflect anything about the piece, other than the year it was accessioned. The second part of the number is the order of the accession. In other words, that will be the first collection accession or the second one. The last number in the three-part number is the object

identification number. That one is specific to each item. So that's what the number is made up of. Florence's collection this year will start with 2001-1-1.

You are correct, that the number does not distinguish newly acquired items from Vanderbilt original pieces. There really is no way in the accession number to do that. That's not the purpose of the accession number. It's really the provenance of the piece. Its history would be contained within our files, but the accession number, its purpose is not to indicate the position of the piece in the collection. I hope that was a good explanation or a reasonable explanation. If you have anything to add to that, Florence.

MS. OGG:

The only thing that I would say is that some of these items have been on the estate but were never accessioned. So the number that we give, 2001, is the year that it is included. That doesn't mean that's the year that it arrived. But since we have to accession these pieces and this is the year, that number is first and then like today if the birds are accepted, that will be 2001-1. If the cameras will be accessioned that's 2001-2, which will be the order in which they were included in the collection. That's why we have to use that number because this is the year it was officially accessioned.

MS. GRESS:

And that reflects the recommendations of the AAM. That's the way they say to do it. We follow those recommendations.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Does anybody have any questions for either Stephanie or Florence? Then I'll make a motion that the list of the grouping of twelve small birds from Central and South America mounted be accepted for accession per memo to Lance Mallamo from Stephanie Gress, Curator, dated July 10, 2001.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Do I have a second?

MR. LUECKE:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Motion passes unanimously. (Vote: 8/0/0/6 Absent: Mr. Fischhoff, Dr. Pecorale, Mr. LaBua, Mr. Votapka, Mr. Shaw & Ms. LeBow)**

MS. FUHRMANN:

I also move that a series of camera pieces as outlined in a memo dated June 6, 2001 to Lance Mallamo from Florence Ogg be accepted for accession to the Vanderbilt Museum.

MR. BROXMEYER:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Motion carries unanimously. (Vote: 8/0/0/6 Absent: Mr. Fischhoff, Dr. Pecorale, Mr. LaBua, Mr. Votapka, Mr. Shaw & Ms. LeBow)**

MS. FUHRMANN:

And that, Steve, is the end of the Education and Exhibits Committee report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Director's Report.

MR. MALLAMO:

All right. We met this morning with representatives from the Suffolk County Department of Risk Management, the Aon Company, and Huntington T. Block regarding coverage for the collections of the Museum. At the end of that meeting the Risk Management Director had indicated that he would be pursuing an acquisition of a policy, a fine arts policy that would cover the collections of the Vanderbilt Museum as well as other Suffolk County owned museum facilities at a level which we have not yet determined. We are going to work on what the financial level and deductible will be of that new policy that will bring our collections much more financial protection than they have now.

Our deductible earlier this year rose to an astronomical level that would really not benefit us in case of a catastrophe. Right now our deductible has been increased to \$1 million, and we would really have to have a major catastrophe to reach that level. We feel we can get much better coverage through this new policy.

That will give us at the Museum the opportunity to do a reappraisal of our collections, which we plan to include in our Operating Budget request each year. We will break that up and do that in stages so that the financial impact of that reappraisal takes place over a period of time. It will almost give us a venue to continually update the appraisals of the collections here at the Museum.

So I think this was very good news for us. I think our partnership with Suffolk County continues to be very strong and very supportive. The representatives couldn't have been more interested and I have to say more impressed. They visited here many times. They took a full tour of the whole institution today, and they were very, very impressed. I'm glad to see that we achieved this coverage for not only the Vanderbilt Museum but for other historic properties owned by the County.

Our capital projects are continuing. Tomorrow I understand there will be a final meeting on the HVAC and electrical wiring. That will be going out. There are still a couple of issues that have to be resolved, but those are going to be put in the bid as alternates. When we get the walls opened up and find where certain beams are, we will then decide which alternate will be executed because we were just not able to make those determinations without doing some damage to the walls. We didn't want to damage the walls and then have to look at the hole for several months. So we're going to do those in the field as the project develops. To make the project go forward, we designed it that way so hopefully that will work out.

Marjorie indicated we had a very successful show here at the Planetarium on the Mars adventure. That was previewed at a special members' night that we held on June 29 opened to members only as a membership benefit. We had a very nice turnout of members who were very excited, very impressed. Many of them told me on their walkout that this was one of their finest visits to the Museum and that we had their total support. So I think that was a real shot in the arm.

The Planetarium staff and I also had lunch several days later, that same week with Mr. Goto who's firm built our Goto projector in 1970. The Goto firm is still very much interested in being involved with the Planetarium. We had a very nice dinner in Manhattan and learned a lot from the Goto firm. In fact, the firm donated to the Museum a copy of their staff's scrapbook that they took when they came here in 1970 and 1971. We have that on exhibit. It was an informal scrapbook, but I think it's a wonderful record of the Goto staff's visit to the Museum. It had several photographs of the institution in the 1970's, and we are very proud to have that on display as part of our permanent archive here at the Museum.

We have also had very good response to the Living History Program regarding the 1939 World's Fair. I think Florence Ogg and I know more about the 1939 World's Fair right now than we do about the 1964 World's Fair, which we both attended. Neither one of us went to the earlier one. But we have been able to integrate that beautifully not only into the Living History Tour but into the collections of the house. I think every room at this point has some little detail whether it's a matchbook or an embroidered purse or a map from Burgdorf Goodman or something that's an original artifact of the World's Fair. We have had a number of donations from people who have come through who have been excited about the concept.

We're delighted to be able to extend this one step further this weekend with the World's Fair brunch and radio review, which will take place Sunday morning beginning at 10 a.m. At the conclusion of that brunch there will be a tour of the mansion with the Living History Program. So we look forward to that and extending that program, which we think will grow in popularity as the word gets out on it. So that's my report, Steve.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Can I just add that I went on the tour with the World's Fair items out, and it is absolutely amazing what they've collected to display. Really, if you haven't gone through the house lately, it's well worth the return visit.

MR. MALLAMO:

I think what we were most excited about or one of the issues is that Mr. Vanderbilt was always at the cutting edge of technology and new ideas. That's what the original World's Fair espoused. So I think he would have had a keen interest in that event. When we began this project, I don't know if that was our intention, but it certainly propelled our excitement to continue his enthusiasm in that area and the world of tomorrow, which was the theme of the fair. Thank you.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you, Lance. It seems to be getting warm in here.

MR. MALLAMO:

Our air conditioning in this building is currently not working up to snuff. We're waiting for a part to come in.

DR. GITTELMAN:

If you have a choice, get the part for the phone system first. Okay, I'll keep it brief. I want to thank the staff, Lance, Trustees for assisting in saving the lions across the street. I think it's an important accomplishment to preserve what we can if we can. We're doing our best to move forward in that area, but staff was wonderful. Everybody worked as a fabulous team and accomplished the impossible in a half an hour. So as you go out you will see one lion up and one lion down, but you did a really good job. It was great.

I was here for two special events, one last week, and so were other Trustees, where there was a public thank you to Bill Rogers for his contribution. The press coverage was very good.

I was here for another event where Legislators appeared for the Planetarium. I have to say that the Planetarium is in beautiful shape. I'm very proud of it, and I remember a mere ten years ago – remember, Carl – where it wasn't in beautiful shape. I think one of the finest moments was when I think we had a meeting that morning of the press conference, and Lance dutifully attended the meeting, but some hours before that there were no bricks or there was a lack of bricks in front of the Planetarium entrance. We can't have a press conference and we can't have the press and guests come here stumbling over a construction site. So through some miracle, and I'm sure I'm not telling the story completely, staff

came through and Lance came through. I was very proud to be here and watch staff thank Lance. That was a very special moment. Lance was presented with a bouquet of flowers. I purposely stood back and let staff have its moment. Well, this is my moment. Lance's contract has been renewed, and Lance is terrific. Staff is terrific, but to see you pull these things together, to be part of it, to understand the bricks weren't down there, but they are now, and we still had the meeting. To understand that, well, one lion is in the air, but the other one is behind it. It's because everybody pulls together in this place in a way that I have never seen you pull together before. It's just wonderful to be part of that. I'm grateful to Trustees and staff and Director. That's my report. Unfinished business? New business?

MS. FUHRMANN:

This is really unfinished business. Do you know if Gary has gone any further with that power sharing proposal?

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's kind of rowing along but not –

MR. MALLAMO:

I do know that a technician is coming from the power company to look at the old generators on Friday to inspect them. They had said that they had an expert in antique generation and someone is coming on Friday from out of state to look at our Fairchild generators. So we'll see.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's an exciting project.

MS. FUHRMANN:

It is. It's very exciting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

If we could pull that one off, it's great. I'd like to know what that report looks like as soon as possible.

MR. MALLAMO:

Certainly.

DR. GITTELMAN:

New business? There has been no need for an executive session established. Is there a need? So, there is no need. We have to make an effort to pull off Cole Porter. I know we can do it. Let's do it. Any support that the committee needs, call on the rest of us. Don't be shy. The rest of us should get out there and do our best to support the efforts of our colleagues. It's a wonderful event. Let's make it a success. Can I have a motion to adjourn?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Motion.

MR. LUECKE:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Motion carries. (Vote: 8/0/0/6 Absent: Mr. Fischhoff, Dr. Pecorale, Mr. LaBua, Mr. Votapka, Mr. Shaw & Ms. LeBow)**

(Dr. Gittelman adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.)

SG/ap