

**SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees was held on **October 20, 2004** in the Planetarium Lobby, Centerport, NY.

The following were in attendance:

Dr. Steven Gittelman – President
Deborah A. Gray – 2nd Vice President
Carl Luecke – Treasurer
Marjorie Kossoy Fuhrmann – Secretary
William Macchione – Trustee
Dr. William Rogers – Trustee
J. Lance Mallamo – Executive Director
Bill Dieck – Staff
Mitchell Spivak – Staff
Leslie Tannen – Todd Shapiro & Associates
Ann Marie Pastore – Stenographer

Absent:

Michael Broxmeyer – 1st Vice President
Bertram E. Seides – Trustee
Dr. Anthony Pecorale – Trustee
Susan LeBow – Trustee

(Dr. Gittelman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.)

DR. GITTELMAN:

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

MS. PASTORE:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Good. Thank you all for being here. Does anyone have any questions? Okay, we'll go to the agenda. Approval of the minutes, Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I didn't receive the minutes.

MS. PASTORE:

I mailed them out about two weeks ago.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I didn't read them yet, but they looked fine to me.

MS. PASTORE:

Did you get them?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I did get them. We will delay approval of the minutes until the next meeting.

MS. PASTORE:

I can e-mail them to you in the morning.

MS. FUHRMANN:

When I receive them, I will e-mail them to whoever hasn't received them. Lance said he didn't get them either.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Lance didn't get them either?

MR. MALLAMO:

No, I don't believe so.

MR. MACCHIONE:

I believe I got them, but I didn't read them.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Public Relations Report, Leslie.

MS. TANNEN:

Good evening, everybody. How are you? It's good to see you. We're going to start tonight by backtracking to a video that I brought last month that we were unfortunately not able to see. Danielle Campbell was kind enough to come out and spend a considerable length of time this past summer with Lance.

DR. GITTELMAN:

How long is the video?

MS. TANNEN:

It's short and sweet, and it's also very enjoyable.

VIDEO PRESENTATION 7:35 – 7:45 P.M.

8/03/04

News 12

**Midsummer Night's Dream
Jack & the Beanstalk
Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra
Northport Rotary Wine Tasting
MG Vintage Car Show**

9/30/04

News 12

Vanderbilt Cup 100th Anniversary

9/30/04

LI News

Vanderbilt Cup 100th Anniversary

9/30/04

NY-55

Vanderbilt Cup 100th Anniversary

10/1/04

WABC

Vanderbilt Cup 100th Anniversary

MS. TANNEN:

That's it. If you take a moment to look at the packet that I handed to you, you'll notice that, thank God, we were very, very successful from the publicity surrounding the 100th anniversary events. There are a number of articles that appeared in the Sunday Newsday, October 3, as well as the Sunday New York Times, Long Island Section, October 3. Actually, if you want to get a better look at them, I believe each of you has a copy.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, if you didn't get the paper, we have the Sunday edition, the early edition that came out Saturday. We were on the cover. This was reduced on the Sunday edition. I believe we had ten pages in Newsday for this event.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Yes.

MS. TANNEN:

I sort of lost count. There were a lot of articles.

MR. MALLAMO:

We had the cover and then the Part II cover. There was very, very extensive coverage. I think that's the first time we have ever done that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

When you're talking about good news, I think it's the first time anybody has ever done that.

MR. MALLAMO:

I don't ever recall that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Getting the cover and the inside cover and a ten page story – I don't know if any museum or cultural institution that has ever achieved that threshold.

MS. TANNEN:

I think that happened because we had something that was of enormous interest, and people responded to it. I think that's why that happened.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Well, I think we would be hard pressed to find a Long Islander who never heard of the Vanderbilt now.

MS. TANNEN:

Good, that's the purpose. We achieved our goal.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you very much. Thank Todd for his help. I think we want to thank Lance also. Lance did a great job in helping to coordinate publicity. In a publicity sense it would be just as the good as the Yankees beating Boston tonight.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Steve.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I would like to personally thank Leslie for all her help with the raffles.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, Leslie was a great help all year on this.

MS. TANNEN:

I just have one more little thing to add. This is in regard to next year's project, which we're hoping will equal or surpass what we did this year. I think Todd had a very brief conversation with you and Florence about this.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes.

MS. TANNEN:

Next year will be the 75th anniversary of the launching of the Alva. We would like to achieve similar success with regard to that event next year.

MR. MALLAMO:

So, I should get my scuba gear ready.

MS. TANNEN:

Todd asked me to ask all of you if anybody would be interested in joining a committee to begin working on this because it's going to involve at least as much work, if not more work, sorry, Lance, than this year's project. If anybody is interested in participating, please let us know.

MR. MALLAMO:

We do have a meeting scheduled on that next week, right?

MS. TANNEN:

I have two meetings, in fact. I have one with Florence and then another one with you, but I thought maybe Florence might want to join us.

MS. GRAY:

What's the event? What are you planning to do, is the question?

MS. TANNEN:

We don't know yet. That's why we're going to start meeting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

But we can't start too early. Thank you very much. Okay, next is the Development Committee, Carl.

MR. LUECKE:

Yes, once again, the Vanderbilt Cup was very successful financially, and it was very successful in terms of publicity. Every trustee helped. I think we had a good turnout of help from each trustee in different ways. I think that Lance, Steve and Todd spent a lot of time and have to be thanked for all the time they put in. I don't know how many hours, but it was an awful lot of hours. I went to a couple of the meetings that were attended by the different car clubs or car owners and that had to take a big percentage of your time throughout the year.

There will be a full report of the financial aspect probably at the next board meeting, but it was very successful. That's it.

MR. MALLAMO:

I'll just add to that that the automotive events that we had that weekend, we really developed a great camaraderie among the car owners and racers. Nassau County was so thrilled with the race in Nassau that they are very supportive of having it again next year. The car festival we had here at the museum, we had a great turnout.

MS. FUHRMANN:

It was fun.

MR. MALLAMO:

We did a survey at the end of the day and asked people to fill it out and let us know what they thought. I have them upstairs. One of the comments that I got back was that it was best car event that they had been to in 30 years. These are people that go all the time. They just had a ball. They all want to participate again next year. We'll definitely look at making this an annual event every October.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It was a wonderful event -- a lot better than the tractor show. Okay, Education and Exhibits, Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Okay. Stephanie has come back from her trip to the Smithsonian, which included behind the scenes visits to the various museums of the Smithsonian. One of the projects that she witnessed was the restoration of the American flag. She brought back lots of information, which she is sharing with her colleagues here at the museum. She made a great number of contacts with persons from other museums, and they're sharing information and swapping materials and equipment among the museums.

It was surprising to her how well known the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum was among these museum representatives down at the Smithsonian from across the country. They kiddingly refer to us as the mini Smithsonian because of the variety of exhibits we have here. Other than that, Stephanie has been working very hard on the reaccreditation she has been doing. She has been doing a lot of different things to get ready for that.

The South Huntington School District has returned for the Artistry of Inquiry. It started yesterday on the 19th. There have been some revisions to the program this year. It is now open to all districts and has been revised so that districts can take what they wish. In other words, you do not have to sign up for the entire Artistry of Inquiry Program. It is itemized so a district can take a line item, what they can afford and do not have to buy into the whole program.

The information that was put together for the Vanderbilt Cup weekend has now been incorporated by the Education Department into the course work. Howard Kroplick's film is now part of a course given by our Education Department on the Vanderbilt Cup. He is working on obtaining all of the rights necessary so that we can sell this film in our gift shop.

Two of the Vanderbilt Cup lectures have occurred already, and they were very successful. This Thursday Al Velocci will be signing and selling his new book, which has just come out, called "The Toll Lodges of Long Island Motor Parkway and their Gate Keepers Lives." This is one of the big lectures of the series, and they expect to have it well attended. The following Thursday Howard Kroplick will be giving his lecture on the Cup Race Centennial.

Last week Florence received a telephone call from George Weeks, who worked here in the 1930's at the airplane hangar on the airplane. He was relaying stories to her regarding the airplanes so that she could document all of the different planes that William Vanderbilt owned. He relayed some very funny stories about things that occurred on the planes and at the hangars for her.

The brochures have now all been translated into Spanish. Christmas decorating by the Garden Club and the Master Gardeners of Cornell Cooperative Extension will begin on November 17th. Florence is also working on the reaccreditation.

I will pass this around. This is an article here, and it's marked by this green thing, called "Grand Designs" by Warren and Wetmore, founded in 1898. Warren and Wetmore were best known for their elaborate, bold art style and creative decorative details. The article heavily discusses Eagles Nest. I'll start passing that around. He had a great deal of information for us.

The next meeting of LIMA is December 13th, and is taking place at the Sayville Maritime Museum. Florence is co-chairing the committee to select programs for the LIMA meetings for the upcoming year. She has asked for us to give her help in coming up with ideas for programs for these meetings or perhaps to act as a presenter.

Lorraine is proud to announce that the museum has been selected as an official NOAA research site. They are coming next week to install the solar panels and begin transmitting to Brookhaven National Lab. Lorraine will be going for training in January, and we should be up and running by the end of January 2005. This is a very prestigious thing for the museum and will give us an opportunity to begin doing meteorological programs with students.

As you all know, Annie Breckling from Intel Audio came and gave us a presentation on doing antenna audios for our programs here at the museum, which we will be discussing in the future.

End of my report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Finance Committee, Carl Luecke.

MR. LUECKE:

The Finance Committee meeting met earlier, and as one issue we wanted to bring to the board a resolution that has to do with the lease of the laser equipment.

I'll just read the following resolution, "Resolved that J. Lance Mallamo, the Executive Director of this organization, is authorized to enter into lease and other agreements on this organization's behalf evidencing lease and equipment financing arrangements such officer may deem appropriate with lesser/creditor."

"Resolved further that each officer, employee, and agent of this organization is authorized to execute such other documents and perform such tasks as may be deemed appropriate to consummate any such transactions."

"Resolved further that lesser/creditor may rely on these resolutions until written notice of the revocation is received."

I need a motion.

MR. MACCHIONE:

Motion.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **It passes. (Vote: 6/0/0/9 Absent: Mr. Broxmeyer, Mr. Seides, Dr. Pecorale & Ms. LeBow. Five vacant positions.)**

MR. LUECKE:

One other issue is the fact that there will be a Finance Committee meeting this coming Monday at eight in the morning at the Sweet Hollow Diner on Route 110.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay, is that your report?

MR. LUECKE:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We then go to the Nominating Committee. Typically the way we do this in accordance with the bylaws is at the November meeting we create a Nominating Committee that reports back to the board at the December meeting. But in this case, we are not having a November meeting. We will be having the Nominating Committee chosen tonight so that it can report back to the board in December and then elections will be in January. Anyone can serve on the Nominating Committee, and anyone can nominate any trustee for the Nominating Committee. Of course, in January when we vote we wait to hear the recommendations in December and you can deliberate about them over the month. It's only a recommendation. My recommendation would be that you choose an odd number of persons for the committee, as opposed to an even number, which can be problematic. It has been suggested that there be greater participation but not by officers in the nominating process.

Given that, do I have anyone wishing to nominate someone?

MR. LUECKE:

Question or statement.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes, Carl.

MR. LUECKE:

Prior to Steve or I being President – I was President before Steve – the Nominating Committee was selected 100 percent by the President. He would say, “This is the Nominating Committee.” Neither of us cared for that and thought that it should come from the floor, that the people on the floor should nominate somebody. Just as history.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes, as a point in history, that is the case, but I wouldn’t have it any other way than the way we have it now.

MR. LUECKE:

I agree.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I know you agree.

MR. LUECKE:

That’s what we said years ago.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It’s at least a fifteen-year tradition at this point, and whether it’s written or not, I don’t know.

MR. LUECKE:

I did it, and you did it, but prior to that it wasn’t done. Anyway, I would like to nominate Mike Broxmeyer.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That brings up an interesting question. Have we historically had people –

MS. GRAY:

I have a problem with officers serving on the Nominating Committee and then nominating themselves, and that’s what happened last year because I was asked to serve on the committee and I ended up being nominated. I think that it does not give a fair shake to other members to participate as officers, because it becomes a revolving door. I really believe that the Nominating Committee should be made up of people who aren’t officers. They should ask the officers if they are interested in serving again and then make the decision based on the people’s willingness to serve length of service in other people’s interest. We are not including enough board members and the actions we take on the board, and I think it shows by the attendance. People just don’t feel committed to anything. I’m not saying Michael shouldn’t be on it. I’m just saying I really feel strongly about getting other people involved in the organization.

MR. LUECKE:

I think that there is merit to that thought, but I think the way that's resolved is just someone raise their hand and nominate somebody who isn't an officer. I don't think you should say that people who are officers can't be on it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I'd like to nominate Bill Macchione.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Wait a second. I apologize. Can we nominate someone who isn't here to accept the nomination?

MR. LUECKE:

I do not know.

MS. GRAY:

Does anybody know parliamentary procedure? I don't remember.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Robert's Rules say yes.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, I believe you're right, you can. If I remember correctly, the nomination as accepted, unless he gets back to you and says he declines, the assumption is he accepts. He is given the opportunity to decline.

DR. GITTELMAN:

If that's your pleasure, I'll accept that. I don't know if we need a motion, but raise your hands if you agree with going along with that procedure. Does anybody object? Since nobody objects, then we will proceed with that. Michael is nominated.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I'd like to nominate Bill Macchione.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay.

MR. MACCHIONE:

I accept and would like to nominate Marjorie.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay.

MR. LUECKE:

I'd like to nominate Bill Rogers.

DR. ROGERS:

I accept.

MR. LUECKE:

You have to have one more.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Susan LeBow. I'll nominate Susan LeBow. She's not an officer. That's five.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I move that the nominations are closed.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Do I have a second?

MS. GRAY:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Nominations are closed. We should have a motion to accept the Nominating Committee.

MR. LUECKE:

Motion.

MS. GRAY:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? ? **It passes. (Vote: 6/0/0/9 Absent: Mr. Broxmeyer, Mr. Seides, Dr. Pecorale & Ms. LeBow. Five vacant positions.)**

Moving on, Personnel Committee.

MS. GRAY:

There is no report. We're meeting on Monday also.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Director's Report.

MR. MALLAMO:

Just when I thought I could breathe a sigh of relief that the Vanderbilt Cup was over, I just realized I couldn't because our reaccreditation site visit will be in two weeks. It will be over two weeks from today. That's the moment I'm looking forward to. They will be arriving on Monday, November 1st, in the afternoon. There are two people on the committee, one from Newport and one from Tallahassee, Florida. They will be spending a full day here at the museum. They have requested to meet with the Executive Committee for lunch on that Tuesday. It is Election Day.

MS. FUHRMANN:

It's got to be Tuesday?

MS. GRAY:

Who's the Executive Committee?

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's the current Executive Committee --

MS. GRAY:

Yes, but who is on the Executive Committee?

DR. GITTELMAN:

The President, the 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President --

MR. LUECKE:

Every officer.

MR. MALLAMO:

And the Treasurer and Secretary.

DR. GITTELMAN:

The five officers. We asked them if they would allow a dinner, correct?

MR. MALLAMO:

Right, and they sent me the agenda. They asked me to stick with that agenda.

MS. FUHRMANN:

What time is lunch? I've got to move stuff.

MR. MALLAMO:

It would be around twelve o'clock or twelve-thirty. If you give me a time you're available, Marjorie -- Carl, I know you're going to be away that week, correct?

MR. LUECKE:

Yes, I'm always away the first week of November.

MR. MALLAMO:

It should be a very full day. I don't know how we're going to fit in everything they have asked to do in a day and a half.

MR. LUECKE:

They'll be here two weeks?

MR. MALLAMO:

No, two days.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's quick and bloody.

MR. MALLAMO:

From 10:30 to 12, they want a whole tour of the museum and to meet with the financial office and the personnel office. I said to them that they would probably need more time, so we're adjusting the time somewhat. In fact, we're going to be meeting them later in the day.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Can't we have a breakfast instead?

MR. MALLAMO:

We are having a staff breakfast that day, but they specifically asked for lunch. If that time doesn't work for you –

MS. GRAY:

Are you going to prepare something so that everybody is on the same page?

MR. MALLAMO:

Sure. I am doing a –

MS. GRAY:

Like what the likely questions are that they're going to ask and what you'd like the answers to be.

MR. MALLAMO:

Sure, I'll send out, number one, the agenda. I'm also doing a revised self-study. We submitted the self-study two years ago, and they would like an update on what we have done for the past two years, which is a lot. I'm doing that, and I can send the summary out for that whole thing to everyone.

As part of that, we are now at the point where we must redo our long-range plan. We do a long-range plan here for the museum every five years, and then we update the plan annually. We do a written narrative every five years, and if you look, I've included a copy of the last five-year plan that we prepared. This was prepared in 1999. This is the document that is stapled in your folder in case you no longer have this at your fingertips. It makes interesting reading on where we were at five years ago.

On the last page of that document, this is the page that I update annually. Five years ago when we established this list, and this is something that the trustees reviewed, I developed a list in conjunction with the trustees, and this was adopted. Everything in the status column would have been blank because most of these or virtually all of these – maybe with a couple of exceptions, such as fumigation, etc – were not underway. We send this list out, and it was very interesting earlier this week when I was completing this, just to understand how many items we have either completed or have underway. That could be even just developing the funding for the project or things like buying Normandy Manor. You know we've really made huge accomplishments in five years.

I was really delighted to see that there was – I think the only item that we hadn't reached was to acquire an outreach vehicle for education programs. We have written a grant for that, which wasn't awarded, but everything else on that list from the capital projects, staff reorganization and hiring, bringing Cornell to the Marine Science Center, getting the trams and the security systems, even our events have pretty much been accomplished.

I have taken the liberty – you have another list that looks like that in your packet with a paperclip on it. This is in the wrong order, so if you take the second page, the list which is a

little bit shorter, these are items that were not on our original plan list. Five years ago, we did not anticipate these items to include them on the list, and yet these are additional items that we have been able to accomplish in the past five years, including computerizing our collection records, cataloging the museum specimen collections, installing the laser program, additional capital projects, and developing the garden area with the Cornell people. So we've really made significant progress.

I will be revising this long-range plan. I'm working on a draft of it now, the written narrative, and I'll have that ready for the next board meeting.

I took the liberty today to develop a new list of objectives for 2004 to 2008. Many of these projects are already underway and just have to be completed or we have identified and we've got them in the capital programs so that they will be budgeted over the next few years. Some haven't begun at all. In the time between this meeting and the next meeting, if there are additional items you think we should include on the list or maybe something I've forgotten to include, please bring it to my attention and we'll get that on there.

That's my report, Steve.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I felt that the Vanderbilt Cup Race event was a smashing success. I felt that it was hard work in many arenas and that the publicity will stand as well for a long time. There are other institutions struggling while we're getting front page of Newsday, eight pages of coverage, and getting superb recognition for what we're doing.

One of the things that I have taken very seriously over the past dozen years is laying out objectives for the institution. We haven't finished my long-range plan, but Lance's list, there are some things that you might argue a little bit that are not completed but rather maybe we made a little progress. But there are enough items on this list that show substantial improvement over the past four years. I know that when we go to the Accreditation Committee we will be able to make a very strong argument that this institution is very healthy.

One of the things that we have not experienced in the past four years is having them come. I think for those of you who don't know, the history of reaccreditation at this place has been an astonishing history. For one, the museum was originally accredited in 1976, which was the time when almost all museums were grandfathered in or grandmothers in, however you want to put it. That's when the American Association of Museums was in its infancy.

Subsequent to that in 1981 or 1982 -- and I might be off a year or so -- the first reaccreditation team came to this museum, and the museum was rated and it was an abomination. We failed reaccreditation. To my knowledge, we are the only institution that has ever sued the American Association of Museums on the basis of their evaluation. I think it was in 1983 when Suffolk County sued the AAM. The AAM sent a visiting team to this institution in '84 or '85, somewhere in that range. That's when the second reaccreditation process occurred.

The new team that came failed us, and the AAM issued a pass, and gave us passing marks. I have read the report from the second visiting team. It's a recommendation for failure.

In 1985 the American Association of Museums gave us, shall we say, really our first accreditation, but it was by default since we sued them, and they didn't have the resources to

fight Suffolk County.

The trustees that followed and the directors that followed for a period of – when was our last reaccreditation?

MR. MALLAMO:

1995.

DR. GITTELMAN:

For a period of a decade we did not get reaccredited. Quite frankly, we only had a five-year accreditation in 1985, which would have taken us to 1990. But no director lasted long enough to follow through with the process. In 1995 we were finally accredited but only for a five-year stand, and it was our first earned reaccreditation. In other words, we honestly passed. We went into the process knowing that we stood out in the AAM's mind as the only institution having sued them to achieve accreditation. We now go back and our hope and frankly my dream is to get a ten-year accreditation, which would be the higher standard. That's the objective. Of course, we would all be thrilled with the five-year but the dream would be ten.

I think we go into this as a very solid institution, and I look forward to getting the results. But if you look at what we show as things we said we'd do, we have done them for the most part. I think we have a lot to be proud of. That's all I've got to say.

Old business?

MS. FUHRMANN:

I have some.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes.

MS. FUHRMANN:

When we were discussing the next meeting, the December meeting, we originally said the date would be December 2nd, which is a Thursday. When Lance sent out his e-mail, he said December 1st, which is a Wednesday.

MR. MALLAMO:

Do you remember which it was, Ann Marie?

MS. PASTORE:

I thought it was December 1st.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I had December 1st also.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I'm just trying to get clarification.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Right now it's published as December 1st. Is that acceptable to everybody?

MR. MACCHIONE:

No, I'm out of town.

MS. FUHRMANN:

No, it's no good for him, and it's no good for me.

DR. GITTELMAN:

So you're out of town on the 1st and the 2nd?

MR. MACCHIONE:

Yes, I'll be coming back on the 4th.

MS. GRAY:

I have it on the 15th.

MR. LUECKE:

I have it on the 1st and the 15th.

MR. MALLAMO:

That one is old.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We're going to skip November. Frankly, I'll take any date you want, just pick one.

MS. GRAY:

I can do either the 1st or the 15th.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I can do either the 1st or the 15th also.

MR. LUECKE:

I can do either one.

MR. MACCHIONE:

I can do the 15th.

MR. MALLAMO:

Is that good for you, Ann Marie?

MS. PASTORE:

That's good with me.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Can everyone make the 15th? Let's assume it's the 15th. We may have problems with our colleagues, but they have to show up.

MS. GRAY:

We also have the dinner on the 10th. Is there any reason not to do the dinner and the board meeting on the same night?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Excuse me?

MS. GRAY:

Is there any reason not to do a quick board meeting and the dinner on the same night?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I wouldn't mix the two.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Have our spouses here at our board meeting?

MS. GRAY:

I'm just saying it's going to be a bad month to get people to come here twice.

MR. LUECKE:

I think they're just two different kinds of nights.

MS. GRAY:

You may not get people two nights in December with the holidays, that's the only reason I raised it.

MS. FUHRMANN:

It's not a bad idea.

MR. MALLAMO:

Actually, Tony Pecorale said he can only come Monday or Friday.

MS. GRAY:

It depends on what you're going to have on the agenda. If you're going to have a quick board meeting just to –

MS. PASTORE:

What day is the 10th?

MS. FUHRMANN:

It's a Friday.

MS. PASTORE:

That's no good for me; that's my office's Christmas party.

DR. GITTELMAN:

There might be a lot of Christmas parties on a Friday.

MS. GRAY:

And there might be a lot on Wednesdays, too.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's a tough month.

MR. LUECKE:

What was the date of last year's dinner?

MR. MALLAMO:

December 9th I believe.

MR. LUECKE:

We had a lot of snow that night.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Let's call it the 15th for the time being, if that's satisfactory.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I have erased the 1st and the 2nd now.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Other trustees were not here, but I guess –

MR. LUECKE:

If December is such a bad month, why don't we have no December meeting and just have a November meeting?

MR. MALLAMO:

No one could make it in November.

MS. GRAY:

We went through all the dates.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That's old business. New business? There has not been a need for an executive session. Is there a motion to adjourn?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Motion.

MR. MACCHIONE:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We stand adjourned. **(Vote: 6/0/0/9 Absent: Mr. Broxmeyer, Mr. Seides, Dr. Pecorale & Ms. LeBow. Five vacant positions.)** Thank you.

(Dr. Steven Gittelman adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.)

SG:ap