

SUFFOLK COUNTY VANDERBILT MUSEUM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees was held on January 17, 2007 in the Planetarium Lobby, Centerport, New York.

The following were in attendance:

Dr. Steven Gittelman - President
Daniel Olivieri - 1st Vice President
Gretchen Oldrin-Mones - 2nd Vice President
Michael B. DeLuise - Treasurer
David D'Orazio - Secretary
Marjorie Kossoy-Fuhrmann - Trustee
Maria Figalora - Trustee
Carl Luecke - Trustee
Dr. William Rogers - Trustee
J. Lance Mallamo - Executive Director
Carol Hart - Director of Special Projects
Mitchell Spivak - Staff
Ann Marie Pastore - Stenographer

Absent:

Howard Kleinberg
Susan LeBow
Ronald Parr
Dr. Anthony Pecorale
Matthew W. Swinson

Excused Absence:

William Macchione

(Dr. Steven Gittelman called the meeting to order at 7:35 P.M.)

DR. GITTELMAN:

This is a regular meeting of the Suffolk County Vanderbilt Museum Board of Trustees. We have Carol Hart in attendance. Carol, do you have any questions or comments?

MS. HART:

No, not at this time.

DR. GITTELMAN:

David, can I have a motion for the minutes?

MR. D'ORAZIO:

After reading the minutes from the December 21, 2006 Board Meeting, I move to approve those minutes.

MR. DELUISE:

I'll second it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Discussion? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **The minutes are approved. (Vote: 9/0/0/6 Not Present: Mr. Kleinberg, Ms. LeBow, Mr. Macchione, Mr. Parr, Dr. Pecorale & Dr. Swinson.)**

Public Relations Report, Todd Shapiro.

MR. MALLAMO:

Todd had told me he was going to be here tonight, but I don't see him yet. I can give the report in his absence. We did have a meeting with Todd and Bruce from his office with our staff last week. We went over the calendar of events for the museum. We put a couple of sheets in your packets tonight, which indicate what our events are going to be. They have actively begun promoting them. We have received a number of press releases today and a list of contacts that have been made regarding the gala event and some of the other events that we're doing to generate publicity for them. It was a productive meeting. That's the report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Questions? Thank you for that report. Buildings and Grounds.

MR. MALLAMO:

Bill Macchione was not able to be here tonight, so I'll give a quick update. I'm pleased to report that the education building is about 98 percent complete. We're just waiting for the gas service to be connected, and then the new heating system should work. The new handicapped accessible bathroom has been installed. The broken pipes in the building have been repaired. Once the heat is on, the project will be finished, and then the museum will undertake a repainting of that building, and it will be ready to be put back in the system. We're real pleased to have that building back.

MR. OLIVIERI:

The new furnaces in the education building, are they naturally gas fired?

MR. MALLAMO:

That's naturally gas fired?

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, that's one of the buildings we've been waiting to be brought on-line. So it's finally happened.

MR. OLIVIERI:

One last question –

MR. MALLAMO:

Not only heat, but the air conditioning as well.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Who has to hook up this gas?

MR. MALLAMO:

KeySpan.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Then I'm sure we'll have it done within a week.

MR. MALLAMO:

That would be very nice, Dan. Anything you can do to help would be great. I think it's underway, but I'll check on the status tomorrow –

MR. OLIVIERI:

The meter is out on all these buildings.

MR. MALLAMO:

The meters are there.

MR. OLIVIERI:

And the pipes were from the road all the way up to the buildings, so it's just a matter of them hooking it up.

MR. MALLAMO:

As far as I know, that's all that's holding us back at this point.

MS. FUHRMANN:

Do you know how long I've been waiting for this education building to come back?

MR. MALLAMO:

So that's the report tonight.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Any questions? What's the progress on any other – for example, the waterfront seaplane hangar? What's the status?

MR. MALLAMO:

Can I talk about the capital projects during this part of the meeting?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Please.

MR. MALLAMO:

Okay. As most of you are aware, we did have a number of capital projects approved in December. We had the next installment on the waterfront project. That brings the amount for the waterfront right now to \$1,200,000. An engineering firm has been selected to complete the final design. We have the preliminary design done for that, but they were here about three weeks ago taking test borings where the boardwalk is going to be built to confirm that the land mass in that area would sustain the boardwalk. That is moving along. The funding that we had just appropriated within the last month will complete that section between the boathouse and the seaplane hangar and provide some additional funding to repair the ramp in front of the seaplane hangar.

The seaplane hangar, the final plans for the first phase have been completed. I met with DPW and the architect about two weeks ago to go over them. We all seem to be on the same page right now. We've come to an agreement that we will not be building the flood floor. At this time we've designed a wall system on the inside of the glass doors that would control a flood if it came, but in a future phase we may be raising that floor, but not at this time. That was the cost prohibitive item that was going to raise the cost of the project significantly, so we deleted that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

When do we anticipate that the seaplane hangar will –

MR. MALLAMO:

I think it should be out to bid within the next few months, and then it's about three months after that. Hopefully by summer, by June, we'll start seeing something happening down there.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay, that would be great.

MR. MALLAMO:

The other capital projects that were approved were façade restoration. We had, I believe, the figure is \$544,000 that will be used for repairs to the bell tower, including the emergency scaffolding that we had to erect last summer. That will take care of that façade.

We had \$300,000 for Normandy Manor, which will replace the heating system and convert it to gas. That will be our next furnace at Normandy, as well as plumbing and ADA improvements that are going to take place on that building.

Then we had \$50,000 to renovate the lobby here at the Planetarium. I think you will all agree it needs it badly.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I thought that was a super nova on the ground. It's a stain?

MR. MALLAMO:

We'll paint it to look like a super nova. That will primarily be used in the flooring, to replace the flooring in this building. We'll put on the waterproof finish and put a floor finish on it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We had tremendous support from the Legislature. We had a number of close situations, but we're very grateful for all the support that the Legislature and the County Executive gave to us. I think we had – what, four projects and got four through.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It was a close call.

MR. MALLAMO:

And we had very good support in all of them, I think.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Once we got them to a vote.

MR. MALLAMO:

Well over a majority vote.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay, so we'll move on. That was a wonderful report. Development Committee.

MR. D'ORAZIO:

Staff has put together an extensive calendar of events this year for fundraising. It looks pretty organized early on. There are a couple of additions. We're going to do the original Vanderbilt gala, "The Night at El Morocco." In talking to Todd Shapiro we kind of came up with the idea of doing a younger event also earlier in the year. Did he speak to you about that?

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, he did.

MR. D'ORAZIO:

Do you know the specifics that you spoke to him about?

MR. MALLAMO:

If I can see my list – let me get it out here. Carol, do you remember? Were we going to do that with the Blue Jean – was that the Junior Executive –

MS. HART:

Are you talking about the Gatsby Gala?

MR. MALLAMO:

Is that on this calendar?

MS. HART:

June 15.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, June 15. So that wouldn't be the \$150 ticket that we looked at when we had Gatsby Galas in the past. That would probably be \$60 to \$75. We're trying to attract a younger

crowd in there. We've been trying to get a major social event in each of the warm weather months, May, June, July, August and September.

MR. D'ORAZIO:

I think it's important to extend an invitation to younger people to the museum and bring them in. We'll come in with something creative to entice them to come to this event.

MR. MALLAMO:

Todd has been looking into maybe getting some celebrity participation into these events to really hype them. I know a number of contacts went out already. I hesitate to say who until they're firmed up, but I was impressed with the list that he got. There were names on the list everyone would recognize.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Is that all with Development?

MR. D'ORAZIO:

Yes, that's it for the Development Committee.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Any questions or comments? It doesn't really fall under the Development Committee – well, it does, I guess. I was here, and I saw the traffic, but how did our week go?

MR. MALLAMO:

The Arrow Holiday Open House?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes.

MR. MALLAMO:

I was going to do that under my report, but this is an appropriate spot to do it as well. It was a very successful event. We did compare the financial numbers. I don't have them in front of me right now, but our admissions are up over \$1,000 from a year ago the same period. Yet we only charged admission in the planetarium. Just the \$3 fee to the planetarium more than made up the difference so that the donation from Arrow Electronics was very, very significant to our bottom line for 2005. Our gift shop did almost double the business that we had last year. Then most importantly, instead of the 500 to 600 maximum we would have had in the mansion during that seven day period, we had almost 4,000 people. We were seven people short of 4,000 going through.

To be very honest, in the past I probably wouldn't have thought we could do that, but we were able to do it very successfully without any problem at all. The public certainly enjoyed it because they could go through at their leisure as quickly or as slowly as they wanted. Some people actually went through a couple of times because they heard of things that they had missed. They were very appreciative of it, and we were all impressed by – I think Carol you said the last few days we collected zip codes and that we had over 130 zip codes and many foreign countries represented. I would say 80 percent of the people that came had not been here before. We were very, very pleased with the result.

DR. GITTELMAN:

So it was a success.

MR. MALLAMO:

It was a complete success.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I did a couple of tours through the building. I've never seen the mansion so busy, but one of the things that it does do is it tells you that our traffic in the mansion could be a lot higher than we had thought in the past. I think we have to revisit that because the day I was doing it we had 795 people go through the mansion.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We never did that on any other day that I've done it.

MR. MALLAMO:

And yet it didn't seem crowded. It was a constant flow.

DR. GITTELMAN:

The grounds didn't seem crowded. Nothing seemed crowded, but there were a lot of people here. The place just swallowed them up. It was great.

Education and Exhibits, Gretchen.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

We did not have a committee meeting, but there is still some news from staff. All the staff has been very busy getting ready for the Winter Fest, which will take place February 17 – 25. Work continues on preparing for this summer's 1938 Living History Tour. The year 1938 was a very exciting year for Vanderbilt, Hollywood and aviation. Peal Buck, Bette Davis, Orson Welles, and Howard Hughes are some of the characters who are made part of the script for the new Living History Tour. There is a lot of material for a film festival. Lance is looking into putting together a vintage film program. The Vanderbilt film called, "Over the Seven Seas" may be part of this program.

The Dean of Libraries and head of Special Collections and Archives from Stony Brook University Libraries spent time with Beth and Florence discussing the archives and education programs. This meeting was in relation to a research and archival project that the Museum's Executive Director has been working on for the committee that included the university staff. Thanks for this meeting is referenced in this letter, which I will pass around.

Florence has given us an obituary for Iris Vanderbilt Christ, granddaughter of William K. Vanderbilt, II, and daughter of Consuelo Vanderbilt Earl, who passed away on December 8, 2006. I will pass the obituary around.

Florence received a phone call from the daughter of Iris' caretakers. Her parents were with Mrs. Christ for 30 years. Florence hopes to arrange a meeting with them at their convenience. Mrs. Christ visited the museum several years ago and shared some of her personal memories of her time at Eagle's Nest. At one time she served as a Trustee at this museum.

Staff worked very hard to make the Arrow Electronics Open House a success. Some worked beyond their regular hours, and their extra efforts are much appreciated.

Stephanie reports that the end of the year papers for the progress of the habitat grant were filed with the INLS on time. We are in compliance and up-to-date with all reporting requirements. She anticipates that the electrical work will commence this month. Stephanie spoke with Charles Janosick regarding LIKA, L.I. Karting, participating in our February break week by staging Vanderbilt Cup timed karting races up Boathouse Road. He wants to see the actual site and learn more about the extent of the participation before making any definite plans or commitments.

Lorraine has been away for a semester but is back now happily. She and Beth have prepared the summer camp letter including shows, tours and crafts that will be offered. These letters should be going out shortly. Also, letters announcing our spring workshops will be mailed out soon, probably around February 1.

Our Education Department will participate in the Sweetbriar Nature Center Wildlife Festival on June 9 and will bring our marine touch box. Cornell's spring and summer program brochure is now available. I have copies. You can take as many as you need.

That is the end of the Education and Exhibits Report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Did you know that Willie K., II, was an admirer of Howard Hughes?

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

It makes sense.

DR. GITTELMAN:

If you're going to do Howard Hughes, you might as well include the fact that Willie K., II, and Virginia both were both into flying planes.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

That may very well be part of it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It could be fun. Howard Hughes, was he tied to Pan Am?

MS. FUHRMANN:

TWA.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes, TWA. Okay, Finance Committee.

MR. DELUISE:

The Finance Committee, first of all, the 2005 financial statement update will be distributed at our next board meeting. In your packets there is a Treasurer's Report. As Lance indicated earlier, we're doing well. The museum is doing very well. In November we were able to cut our projected deficit by about \$30,000. We still don't have the final numbers for December, but it looks really, really good for the year, much better than we expected. Lance has already said that thanks to corporations like Bank of America and Arrow Electronics and the great attendance we've had, things are doing very well. End of my report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Is there any chance we can balance?

MR. MALLAMO:

Well, if we had one more month I think we could.

MR. DELUISE:

If we had a 13-month year, we'd be fine.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Unfortunately, you don't want that month to be January.

MR. MALLAMO:

And I think a couple of corporations beat us to that trick. We're sticking to 12 months to a year.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes, Carl.

MR. LUECKE:

When you say very, very well, what does that mean in terms of dollars?

MR. DELUISE:

It means that we have cut our deficit. Remember, we had a projected deficit. We might be able to cut that deficit by \$30,000 or more for the year. Is that correct, Lance?

MR. LUECKE:

We projected to break even. We always projected to break even.

MR. MALLAMO:

Well, the beginning of the year we did, but later on as the year went on –

MS. FUHRMANN:

Reality set in.

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, reality set in, but now we're hoping that -- right now it looks like on this paper we're about -- actually I'm looking at the wrong one -- \$51,000, but I think we're going to be able to cut that to about \$41,000.

MR. LUECKE:

We projected at the very beginning that we would break even. Now we're projecting that we will -- and then I guess some time during the year we were not going to break even and we'd have a big deficit. Now we're projecting --

MR. DELUISE:

It's going to be a much smaller deficit than we thought.

MR. LUECKE:

But we're not going to go with the original deficit.

MR. MALLAMO:

It doesn't look like it, no.

MR. DELUISE:

But if we had an extra month we could do it.

MR. LUECKE:

We could even make a profit.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We can't make a profit. We're a not-for-profit. Okay, Nominating Committee, Carl.

MR. LUECKE:

We nominated at the last meeting, so now we need to have a vote on that slate.

DR. GITTELMAN:

So this should actually read "Elections."

MR. MALLAMO:

I'm sorry. I should have caught that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Anyway, are there any nominations from the floor for any positions? Do I have a motion to close nominations?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Motion.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Is there a second?

MR. LUECKE:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Nominations are closed. (Vote: 9/0/0/6 Not Present: Mr. Kleinberg, Ms. LeBow, Mr. Macchione, Mr. Parr, Dr. Pecorale & Dr. Swinson.)**

Is there a motion to accept the slate?

MR. LUECKE:

Motion.

MR. DELUISE:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: 9/0/0/6 Not Present: Mr. Kleinberg, Ms. LeBow, Mr. Macchione, Mr. Parr, Dr. Pecorale & Dr. Swinson.)**

Carl, can you please read the slate?

MR. LUECKE:

Steve Gittelman, President; Dan Olivieri, Vice President; Gretchen Oldrin-Mones, 2nd Vice President; Mike Deluise, Treasurer; and David D’Orazio for Secretary.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Thank you very much. Welcome, officers new and old.

Director’s Report, Lance.

MR. MALLAMO:

I think I’ve pretty much given it. We were talking about the capital projects. I just want to thank everyone for their support during this very busy month that we had in December. We had a lot of things going on. I want to thank Steve for coming to the Legislature on multiple occasions and lending his support and guidance to the Legislature. I know that makes a big difference when they see you come there and be an advocate to the museum. I think they actually had some questions for you this time that you were well prepared to answer. That was really great. It makes my job so much easier to have that kind of support from the President and the Board.

I want to thank the staff of the museum for really putting in over the holiday period. Many of us here worked all day and at night multiple nights during the week at a time when most people would rather be home with their families, and they were here making it happen. My hat is really off to them in making that happen.

I would like to welcome Lorraine Vernola back, who has been out student teaching, but she’s back here at the planetarium for the past several weeks. We’re delighted to have you back, Lorraine. Thanks for being here tonight and filling in.

I want to thank Carol Hart, who is in the audience, for all her work in December and her assistance in getting the whole Arrow program and the special event activities that we had underway, as well as developing new outreach projects and doing a year-end annual appeal and the calendar for the coming year. It’s kind of scary. I don’t think we’ve ever been this organized in January for the coming year. We know exactly what we’re going to be doing. I look forward to that.

I also did want to report on the success for the dinner that we had that was won at the auction back at the gala. Remember there was some discussion at the October meeting whether we should entertain doing that kind of activity in the house. I want to correct a mistake I guess on my part when I had indicated that the dinner we had a year ago, that the damage was found the following morning. I stand corrected by the curator. It was several days later that the damage was found. It looked like it had occurred in that 12-hour period, but it may not have been. It may have been over a longer period, and it may have just been something that happened on its own. I don’t want to see aspersions cast that there was any correlation to the WLIW dinner that we had.

I will say that we had a very successful dinner for the winner of the auction. The curators worked with me to get the table to the level that the Board expected to protect the room. I think not only did we do it, but they did it enthusiastically. We really got into making that a success, and it was a complete success. The winner asked if she could have the same thing again next year. I told her, “Not at the same price, but we would be happy to oblige.”

I think that the dinner worked well. We could do more events like that. We’re looking in-house at new opportunities based on the success of the open house we had with Arrow. We

may be looking at other corporate arrangements for holiday weekends throughout the year on a three-day weekend period to have a company sponsor free admission during that program for a fee, as well as some other unique opportunities to market the estate for the kind of event activities such as that dinner. It was a win-win for everyone and produced some resources for the museum that were significant in reducing our deficit. That's my report.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's a good report. Where did I hear the expression, "I have a dream." We have a dream, and it seems like after going throughout the legislative period, which always seems to occur to us at the end of the year, which makes it triply traumatic, and that actually we have a shot at seeing construction on the waterfront this year. When we do, it's going to be the beginning of a very exciting time.

I just went through an experience like that. I've been on the Board of Touro Law School for 16 or 18 years, something like that. We just opened up a new law center next to the court complex in Central Islip. It was a dream that we started 16 years ago, and there it is. The students moved in today or yesterday. The excitement of seeing that long-term dream happen is just so rewarding. It's so wonderful. We haven't even had our first Board of Governors meeting yet in the building. That's coming up in a week. I think it will be a very exciting Board of Governors.

I will tell you right now that I hope the same thing happens to the Vanderbilt Museum because all of a sudden the students that are applying at Touro are of a better quality. The professors who want to be hired at Touro are of a higher quality. The Board pass rate is going up. It's just amazing what you can do with the right kind of project with the right kind of push. It's just wonderful.

I want you all to experience walking down the boardwalk on the waterfront at the Vanderbilt and going into the seaplane hangar, then really seeing the glass wall the whole width of the building, having our first gala event in that building, seeing the Rogers waterfront, going along the boardwalk from gazebo to gazebo, and taking people in a big circle starting at the mansion going around on the boardwalk going through the various gazebos, going through Cornell, going out on to the deck, going through the seaplane hangar, seeing the big exhibit, going south toward Northport. It's so romantic; it's going to kill you. Then coming back, doing the circle, coming up through the planetarium. They won't miss anything. We won't be able to beat them away with a stick. It's going to be wonderful.

I have a dream, and I'm just thrilled to have you all share it with me. I thank you very much for giving me the privilege of being the President for one more year. I have seen the waterfront happen. It's been what's been driving me, and I hope it drives you, too.

DR. ROGERS:

What day and what time?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I don't know. I'm not putting dates on it. I'm just going to be there, as I hope all of you are there, too. Like Lance, he gave out a lot of thank you's. I'm very grateful to this Board, not for making me President, as much as I am for being who you are. This has been a good year. Yes, I got my share of calls, "Well, this one said that and this one said this," but it was just normal discussion stuff. Everybody seems to iron out their problems. If you've got a problem, we seem to iron it out sometimes over sushi, sometimes a conference call, whatever it takes. It's wonderful. It's just a joy to be part of it. I hope we can keep that

feeling of unity. The staff has been terrific. Even when the staff has a problem, they self-correct it. I think that we have one heck of an institution, and we have a lot to be proud of.

MR. LUECKE:

Steve, you've been very diligent, focused and hard working. You deserve a lot of credit for getting us there and Lance also. The two of you have been –

DR. GITTELMAN:

Carl, you're no slouch yourself. That's all I want to say.

I'm going to finish my book this year. I'm not telling you it will be in print, but I will finish the book this year.

Is there any old business? Yes, Carl.

MR. LUECKE:

You asked me to be an auditor to comply with certain regulations that were mandatory. Since I'm not going to be here, you have to have someone to replace me. You needed this by law, an auditor to –

MR. MALLAMO:

Yes, the Audit Committee.

DR. GITTELMAN:

When is the audit going to come in?

MR. MALLAMO:

By the next Board Meeting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

You're going to be here.

MR. LUECKE:

No, I thought that the thought was to make sure that the material we gave to the auditor was correct.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Yes, but you're not going to be gone before that. We can always send things by messenger down to North Carolina.

MS. FUHRMANN:

He's going to be in Georgia.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Fine, we'll track him down.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Look we found the lions; we're going to find him. That's no problem.

MR. LUECKE:

There are other issues. I'm not sure if it's new business or old business. It's old business. I had a conversation with our insurance broker. The Treasurer, as part of Finance, should look into insurance deficits that we might have in terms of fine arts, in terms of whether or

not we have the items properly scheduled, as to whether or not we have the correct appraisal value and whether or not we have a system for adding accessions. Also, the property that covers our buildings, I've been told that it will not cover a loss and replace our losses with like kind and quality. They'll just replace a building. If you own the mansion or own the Dakota, they can just build any building, and that should be looked into because we want to replace with like kind and quality.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Can we pen a letter that would go to the appropriate insurance authority in the County to ask –

MR. LUECKE:

Might I suggest that you ask the broker to ask the County risk manager to explain what the deficits are? They told me about it. They can explain what they are before you write a letter.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Sure.

MR. LUECKE:

Because this way you're getting it secondhand. Also, I recommend that from now on when the Directors and Officers application is sent to the Vanderbilt, that it be sent -- at least a copy of it be sent to a Board Member. Once again, it would be the President or the Treasurer, because that could sit on a person's desk and not be completed, and we could be without coverage because we haven't filled out the application. Just as a procedure, we should tell our broker every year the application -- a copy should be sent to us. Also, quite a while ago we agreed that we would provide health coverage for our retirees if they paid for it. We have to make sure that everybody understands that clearly in writing, so that the next time someone retires, they understand that the insurance is available, but that is something they would have to pay for.

DR. GITTELMAN:

For decades you have nurtured this institution through a million different things. I don't know if all of you know that Carl was the President before me. I took all I know from Carl. Certainly he has served as our insurance expert, Treasurer and chaired a million committees. We ought to invite back old Trustees at the next building meeting. Would that be okay? Would you be able to join us?

MR. LUECKE:

Steve, I have to check when the meetings are. I close in Georgia February 15, so I'll be down there that week. This may be the last meeting I'm actually at. That's February. In March I'm in Aruba, and April I close down in Georgia, so this may be my very last meeting. I didn't mean it to be that way, but it may be.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Go ahead and spring it on us.

MR. MALLAMO:

I guess we'll just have to go to Aruba.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We've been wanting to have the retreat.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

Aruba would be perfect.

MR. MALLAMO:

Didn't Vanderbilt go to Aruba at some point?

DR. GITTELMAN:

I'm sure he did.

MR. MALLAMO:

Maybe we could retrace his steps.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I don't know how to answer you except to say that I know that this institution is endlessly indebted to you.

MR. LUECKE:

I've enjoyed my time here. I've enjoyed the people. Everybody I've ever met here I've enjoyed and liked. It's been a great group. It's very diversified. As a businessperson, it is quite unique to work in a democracy where other people have opinions.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We're going to miss you. We're going to hear from you regularly, right?

MR. LUECKE:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

The 21st is the next meeting.

DR. GITTELMAN:

You said you're going to be out of here by the 15th.

MR. LUECKE:

I'm just not sure, Steve.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

That's also our school vacation week.

DR. GITTELMAN:

And if we move it up, it's the 14th, which is Valentine's Day. I could just imagine the complaints I'm going to hear.

MS. FUHRMANN:

We've done Valentine's Day before.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I understand that, but what happened to the marriages?

MS. FUHRMANN:

I don't think –

DR. GITTELMAN:

He's a newlywed.

MR. MALLAMO:

Are we doing a Development Meeting or a Board Meeting?

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's a Development Meeting. Speak up now.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I supposed we could move it.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I suppose we could.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I don't know if I can handle change.

DR. GITTELMAN:

You can handle it, Marge.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I can.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Why don't we do it on the 7th? Carl, would you be here on the 7th?

MR. MALLAMO:

The 7th would probably be a good time because I think the sooner, the better to get things rolling.

MR. D'ORAZIO:

I will be moving my entire house the last week of February, so that's not going to work.

MR. LUECKE:

I will not be in Georgia on the 7th, so the 7th appears to me a date that would work.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Could we contact other past Trustees and invite them in?

MS. FUHRMANN:

Can we do the fishies' thing?

MR. LUECKE:

I have a fish. I don't need one.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Don't give me, "I don't need a fish." You just denigrated the fish.

MS. FUHRMANN:

We actually made a rule that everyone was entitled to one.

DR. GITTELMAN:

What did you get a fish for?

MR. LUECKE:

When I was President.

DR. GITTELMAN:

That was back when the dinosaurs were still roaming. That's different. That's a different fish.

MR. LUECKE:

If that's a Development Meeting, I will definitely try to make that. If it's a party, that's a different thing.

DR. GITTELMAN:

We're not going to tell you it's a party. It's a surprise. It's the 7th of February. Is that okay with everyone? Does anyone have a problem? Not that we don't want Ann Marie there, but we don't need Ann Marie there.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Just to go back, and I hate to say this, but if he's not going to be here for that –

DR. GITTELMAN:

He will be here the 7th.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Let me finish. The audit is not going to be done by the 7th, is it?

MR. MALLAMO:

No, but it's not the Board Meeting.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Who is going to run his Audit Committee if he's doing it the 7th and the documents aren't ready?

DR. GITTELMAN:

Who is on the Audit Committee?

MR. MALLAMO:

That's the State of the County address.

DR. GITTELMAN:

I was invited.

MR. OLIVIERI:

Does it have to be on a Wednesday?

DR. GITTELMAN:

No, it doesn't have to be on a Wednesday. It could be on a Thursday.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

Thursday would be perfect. How about the 8th?

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's going to take us longer to decide the date of the next meeting than it was to have this meeting.

MR. MALLAMO:

February 8th.

DR. GITTELMAN:

February 8th, going once, going twice –

MR. LUECKE:

We'll be across the street at Normandy Manor?

DR. GITTELMAN:

It's seven o'clock the 8th of February. Was that all the old business that we had?

MR. LUECKE:

Yes.

MS. FUHRMANN:

I have to miss another meeting. Does it have to be the 8th?

DR. GITTELMAN:

We're on to new business now.

MR. MALLAMO:

I just want to note that Bill Macchione is ill tonight and has an excused absence. He sent me an email to that effect.

DR. GITTELMAN:

New business? Would all Committee Chairpersons and all members of Committees who wish to serve at any other capacity contact me before I simply start assigning people? We have to replace you on the Audit Committee, Carl. Are you the only committee person at this point?

MR. LUECKE:

I was under the impression that it was supposed to be someone who wasn't the Treasurer to make sure that –

MR. MALLAMO:

It was you and Tony Pecorale, who was on as well.

DR. GITTELMAN:

It was you and Tony. Can it function with one member?

MR. MALLAMO:

I wouldn't recommend that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Daniel Olivieri just volunteered. Okay, we want to have an Ad Hoc Insurance Committee.

MR. LUECKE:

It's part of Finance.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay, that can be part of Finance.

MR. LUECKE:

You really should have John and Al Beedenbender – Al Beedenbender has handled the insurance for the Vanderbilt for probably 15 to 20 years. He's gradually retiring. John is taking his place. They're both very capable people. John is looking at it with fresh eyes and saying, "Wow, you're underinsured here. You don't have the value here." Al has the history of it, so between the two of them I think you get a pretty crystal clear idea of where you should be and what you should do.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Okay, so we can nail this down. Michael, are you going to follow up with Lance on this issue?

MR. DELUISE:

Yes, I will speak to Lance on this.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Carl, are you available to assist in the follow-up on the short-term?

MR. LUECKE:

Yes.

DR. GITTELMAN:

This has got to be done right away.

MR. LUECKE:

I'm not dying, so that if there is anything I can do in terms of a phone call or some questions, I'd be glad to do that.

DR. GITTELMAN:

Is there any other new business that I've forgotten about? We have not established the need for an executive session, so can I have a motion to adjourn?

MR. DELUISE:

Motion to adjourn.

MS. OLDRIN-MONES:

Second.

DR. GITTELMAN:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: 9/0/0/6 Not Present: Mr. Kleinberg, Ms. LeBow, Mr. Macchione, Mr. Parr, Dr. Pecorale & Dr. Swinson.)**

(Dr. Gittelmann adjourned the meeting at 8:40 P.M.)

SG:ap