



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE  
Monday, January 27, 2020  
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office  
23 Royce Circle**

**MINUTES**

Present: Diana Pelletier, Betsy Paterson, and Frank Gifford

Staff: Kathleen M. Paterson

Guest: Anne D'Alleva

**1. Call to order**

Diana Pelletier called the meeting to order at 4:07 PM.

**2. Public comment**

There was no public comment.

**3. Approval of November 25, 2019 Minutes**

Betsy Paterson moved to approve the minutes as presented. Frank Gifford seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**4. Exit interview with former Board members**

Ms. Pelletier welcomed Anne D'Alleva and asked her to speak on her experience as a Partnership Board member.

Ms. D'Alleva recalled her tenure on the Board and commented that it was a great experience to witness the changes from the construction period through today. Ms. D'Alleva expressed a desire to continue the strong relationship between the Partnership and the UConn School of Fine Arts, of which she is dean. She discussed the value that both organizations bring to each other and to their shared audiences.

In response to a question from Mr. Gifford, Ms. D'Alleva explained that the Ballard Institute & Museum of Puppetry's move to the downtown has proven to be a success. She noted that the Ballard averaged between 3,000 and 4,000 visitors a year at its previous location and, since relocating to Downtown Storrs, has received 12,000-13,000 visitors a year. She added her only regret is that the performance space is not larger because the Ballard regularly sells out their puppet shows and programs.

Ms. D'Alleva concluded by saying that she thought the downtown could benefit from the addition of at



least one more cultural institution. She said she would be open to further discussions on possible arts initiatives.

Ms. Pelletier, Ms. Paterson, and Mr. Gifford thanked Ms. D'Alleva for her contributions to the Board of Directors and for taking the time to meet for an exit interview.

#### **5. Update on Honoring June Krisch**

The committee reviewed the progress to date on identifying a way to honor June Krisch and suggested edits to wording for a potential plaque.

#### **6. Adjourn**

Ms. Paterson moved to adjourn. Mr. Gifford second the motion. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.

*Minutes prepared by Kathleen M. Paterson*

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