

THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Board of Trustees Meeting, May 26, 1970

Pursuant to notice duly mailed, a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Children's Museum was held May 26, 1970 at the Union Club, 8 Park Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

The President, Mr. Robert McA. Lloyd, called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. and the Secretary, Mr. Henry Wheeler, kept the records of the meeting.

There were present the following Trustees:

Coolidge, Hamilton	Paley, Bertram R.
Coolidge, J. Gardner	Soule, Augustus W., Jr.
Fulmer, Vincent A.	Wade, Jeptha H.
Jackson, Mrs. James H.	Waldron, Chauncey
Lloyd, Robert McA.	Wheeler, Henry

and by invitation from the Museum staff, Michael Spock, Director, Miss Phyllis O'Connell, Assistant Director, and Mr. David Twichell.

On motion duly seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To accept the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held April 13, 1970 as mailed to members of the Board of Trustees.

It was then reported to the meeting that it would be desirable for the Museum to establish a form of employee health insurance plan for full-time employees of the Museum. It was noted that the premium cost for such plan would in all likelihood increase in future years but would remain subject to future action of the Board.

On motion duly seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Museum establish an employee health insurance plan for full-time staff members at the earliest practical time, under which plan the Museum is to provide 50% of the total premium costs for individual and family memberships.

The Treasurer, Mr. Soule, then presented the proposed budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971. He pointed out to the meeting that the budget included an operating deficit of slightly in excess of \$144,000, which deficit is to be offset by the use of capital funds to

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achieve a projected cash surplus at fiscal year end in 1971 of approximately \$10,000. The Treasurer reviewed cuts made in earlier projected budgets in order even to achieve this result. He noted that in particular a plan to prepay an additional mortgage payment of \$50,000 had been eliminated. On questioning by those present, the Treasurer stated that the Museum must move into a significantly new direction and that the proposed budget must be regarded as a holding operation until the Museum under the Director's guidance chartered and implemented a significantly new course. The President reported that he had reviewed the budget thoroughly with the Director and it was his opinion that it could not be cut further without eliminating one or more departments or services.

The discussion of the budget led to a discussion of the Director's project, a memorandum of which dated May 26, 1970 was distributed to the Board members present. The Director elaborated on the memorandum and reported expressly on several possibilities for the Museum's future. After consideration and discussion and on motion duly seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the budget for the year ending June 30, 1971 as presented by the Treasurer to the meeting.

On motion duly seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board authorize the Director to delegate a substantial portion of his administrative responsibilities over the coming year to the Assistant Director so that he may commit his time to the development of a workable and economically sound plan for the Childrens Museum's future and that the President appoint a Committee of one to three Trustees to work with the Director in this regard. The Director will present a report on the progress of this project to the Board at its January meeting, at which time the Board may decide to continue the project or make other commitments with respect to the Museum's future.

There was a brief discussion regarding Mr. Vincent Fulmer's resignation from the Board of Trustees.

On motion duly seconded it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board of Trustees express its thanks to Mr. Fulmer for his valuable service as a member of the Board.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, on motion duly seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn.

Adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

A true record

ATTEST

Henry Wheeler  
Henry Wheeler  
Secretary