



# City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

## Meeting Minutes MILWAUKEE CITY HALL HISTORICAL EXHIBIT WORK GROUP

*Paul Jakubovich, Chair  
Paul Fredrich and Gary Petersen*

*Staff Assistant, Joanna Polanco, 286-2366  
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Tuesday, December 7, 2010

2:00 PM

Room 301-A, City Hall

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*Meeting convened: 2:10 P.M.*

*Also present: Tina Klose - City Clerk's Office*

**1. Appearance by Jim Owczarski, Deputy City Clerk, relating to open meetings and open records laws.**

*Mr. Owczarski spoke to the body and noted that two members constitute a quorum, so members shouldn't interact with each other outside of this body. There will be a file for immediate adoption at the next Council meeting to extend the term of this body for six months. All documents for distribution to members should be forwarded to the Staff Assistant. Mr. Owczarski also answered questions from members of the body.*

**2. Overview of duties of the work group.**

*The Chair noted that artifacts could consist of brick, stone, etc, but can also include paper memorabilia. The goal of the body, per the Chair, is to incorporate as much as they can as reasonably as possible. Mr. Owczarski spoke on possible report formats that the body can present and he will provide a list of potential sites for the exhibit. Mr. Fredrich thinks that the space will define the scope of the exhibit. Mr. Fredrich noted that this building can only support 80 lbs. per square foot, which is less than modern buildings can support, so that needs to be taken into consideration, as well as who has jurisdiction over the space. Mr. Petersen asked if the body can also consider the outside space. Mr. Fredrich noted that the final phase of the foundation work is to create a Market Street park, which could include exhibits. Mr. Petersen would like to use the outside space so the public is aware of what is here, as well as a magnet to pull the public in to an interior exhibit.*

**3. Inventory of existing historical items and their locations.**

*Mr. Fredrich provided members with a City Hall artifact history timeline in a pilot project to sell items; only 35 items were sold. In phase 2, an inventory was done of all the items removed from City Hall and the impending sale of these items was stopped. All 201 items are inventoried, digitally photographed and laid out for inspection, in addition to thousands of bricks. Mr. Fredrich would recommend going over there and see what is over there. The Chair recommended looking at having the items distributed throughout City Hall. Mr. Fredrich will organize a tour for the*

*next meeting. He'll also burn a CD of the items that are in the garage. The Chair also thinks that incorporating memorabilia from City Hall would be highly desirable to some members of the public. Mr. Petersen thought that might be considered phase 2 as the paper memorabilia might result in more cost as bookcases would need to be built and also the items preserved. Mr. Fredrich agreed with that as well - that the artifacts could be the primary focus right now. Ms. Klose mentioned that a booklet/video display could be created to complement the display. Ms. Klose does have experience with archival framing. The Staff Assistant noted that libraries have archives and individuals could be referred to those sites. Phase 3 could be creation of a book.*

**4. Suggestions for additions to the inventory.**

*This item was discussed under the previous items and exhibit items may include paper, stone or gifts. The Staff Assisnant will query the Mayor's Office and the City Clerk's Office as to what it has that were gifts to the City that could be included as part of an exhibit. The Chair mentioned that former Mayor Zeidler's house is also being considered as a national landmark.*

**5. Future exhibit location suggestions.**

*Members will think of potential places where the exhibit could be located. The exhibit could also be in the City Hall complex, rather than in City Hall itself. The body also needs to consider of what it's trying to accomplish with the display. Mr. Petersen noted that the biggest artifact is the building itself and a big part of this will be marketing just to get people into the building. Mr. Petersen would like to examine having displays on each floor, such as on the east side of each floor and limited access to the Council chambers. Doing this would allow unlimited expansion and also time to build a collection. Ms. Klose noted that a map could be created noting where the exhibits are located and also creation of a possible kiosk to direct people. Mr. Owczarski may have researched this kiosk idea a few ideas ago - the staff assistant will speak to Mr. Owczarski about this and he might present this information at a future meeting.*

*Mr. Petersen recommended having some artifacts placed at the Milwaukee County Historical Society with a note stating that there are more at City Hall. The Chair believes that the Historical Society will now be used primarily as a reception venue rather than an historical society.*

**6. Timeline of the work group.**

*This was discussed under item #1.*

**7. Future agenda items and meeting dates/times.**

*Ms. Klose would like to go along on the tour. The tour will be set up after January 1st and will be held at the Lincoln garage to view the architectural artifacts. Mr. Fredrich will coordinate the travel and tour the third week of January.*

*Mr. Petersen recommended talking to other individuals with expertise who may have cool ideas to display some of the items. He was also thinking of this in terms of in-kind donations rather than grants.*

*Meeting adjourned: 3:09 P.M.  
Linda M. Elmer  
Staff Assistant*