

Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Arcadia Commons Campus
Kalamazoo Valley Museum
Advisory Team
5:30 PM
April 1, 2025

Present: Baker, Bunke, Ferraro, Labadie, McElhone, Stinson

Absent: Fullerton, Jackson, Michaels

Meeting Agenda

1. Acceptance of the Agenda
 - The agenda was accepted as presented.
2. Acceptance of the Minutes — July 2, 2024 (October 2024 and January 2025 meetings cancelled)
 - The minutes were accepted as presented.
3. Informational Updates
 - Updates from Bill included:
 - Current and upcoming events: Spring Break program started today, Taps on Tuesdays and Honorable Harvest Series continue, Foodways Symposium is this weekend, Ray Harryhausen film series continues, Ran Garden Tours starting on Earth Day, Association of Lincoln Presenters group visiting this summer, Juneteenth film and panel discussion, Summer Break programs being planned.
 - Recent event: Fretboard Festival 20th anniversary took place in March.
 - Updates from Julie included:
 - Current exhibits are Ray Harryhausen (first time in the US for this exhibit) open until April 27, mini-exhibit on Kalamazoo local masonic history open through June, Colorful Collections and Art of Advertising exhibits open through August 31.
 - Upcoming exhibits on the third floor are Wallace & Gromit and Shaun the Sheep for summer, Dancing with Life Mexican Masks for fall, Houdini Unlocked for winter. Coming later are Dinosaurs, Toytopia (third floor and first floor exhibit spaces), KVM anniversary exhibit.
 - Upcoming exhibits for the first floor are Am I An American or Am I Not?, Black Cowboys: An American Story (inspired by Murphy Darden), likely KVCC anniversary exhibit.
 - Working with Douglass Community Center to help each other expand 2nd floor exhibit/programming.
 - Strategic planning follow-up will be happening regarding tasks/feedback for MAT.
4. Advisory Team's Focused Discussion and Exercise
 - a. Future exhibit planning review through 2027 and input from MAT members

- We are looking for ideas for exhibits for underrepresented groups. Interested in Green Book exhibit from the Smithsonian, but it is no longer traveling.
 - People in the community who have a great collection could contribute to “pop-up” exhibits.
 - Two stained glass pieces from Murphy Darden will be displayed in the Core Gallery in place of the quilt. Some other artifacts on display will be rearranged.
- b. Feedback on scheduled, contracted and proposed exhibits and exhibit themes
 - c. Discussion with MAT to seek additional ideas; please be prepared to answer the following questions:
 - i. What exhibits and exhibit topics would you like to see at the KVM to support the College & KVM’s missions?
 - ii. Are these themes and topic relevant and/or appealing to diverse audiences and those not always represented at the museum?
 - Is there any impact from the changes taking place in Washington?
 - We are not federally supported, so we have not been directly affected. We are keeping an eye on how other institutions are being impacted.
 - Lucinda has Eastern Star masonic memorabilia and is in contact with a grandchild of the owners of the first Black laundromat in town.
 - We will contact her about possible exhibit/story ideas.
5. Next Meeting — July 1, 2025 @ 5:30 PM (Future Meeting — October 7, 2025)
 6. Adjournment

Approved by Cabinet on October 2, 2024

Vision

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum aspires to be a place for all to connect, learn and belong through representative stories, exhibits and experiences.

Mission

The Kalamazoo Valley Museum offers inclusive learning opportunities that foster exploration of educational themes including the sciences and local history.

MAT Attendance							A=Absent
	October-23	January-24	April-24	July-24	April-25		P=Present
Sharon Ferraro	A	A	P	P	P		
Leatrice Fullerton	P	P	P	P	A		
Jermaine Jackson	P	P	A	A	A		
Jodi Michaels	P	P	P	P	A		
Lucinda Stinson	A	P	P	P	P		