



Platteville Museum Board Agenda:
Wednesday, October 22, 2025, 4:45 PM – 6:45 PM at The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums
MINUTES

Voting Members: (Quorum requires a minimum of 4 voting members)

Larry Bowden
Dick Davies (President)
Eugene Tesdahl
Joanne Wilson
Superintendent of Schools
Representative: Garrett Jones
(Secretary)
Common Council Rep.: Steven Badger
Friends Representative: Deb Jenny

Board Liaison

Cody Grabhorn, Museum Director

Jamison Trustees:

- Clare Bank (formerly State National Bank): Deb McWilliams
- City Council: Steven Badger
- Board of Education of Platteville School District: Matt Zielinski

I. Call to Order

- Welcome to Steven Badger – Common Council Rep. – Steve will also serve as part of the Jamison Trustees along with Deb McWilliams of Clare Bank and Matt Zielinski of Platteville Public School.
- Approval of minutes from the September 17 meeting. Larry Bowden moved to approve these. Deb Jenny seconded. This passed by unanimous ballot.

II. Collections Monthly Report (Christina Grev)

- Collections Report
 - a) Museum staff catalogued 183 items in the past month. This included invaluable help from tour guides. This includes 1735 objects catalogued for the year and 15, 305 overall in PastPerfect.
 - b) Special Projects: High school students have volunteered to weed and changed lightbulbs across the museum campus. Christina Grev and Emma Larsen have redressed 2 of 15 mannequins. Their new clothing are mildew resistant. Fall field trips continued up to October 22, 2025. Collaboration with Dr. Doug Adams School of Education students from UW-Platteville continues. Scouting America Troop 66 from Iowa visited. Christina also created a new system for field trip registration. This prioritizes local schools and then opens to other districts. This is linked to free admission for public school field trips and free busing. This is made possible through a grant program provided by the Friends of the Mining and Rollo Jamison.
 - c) Two Items were offered for accession from the Southwest Wisconsin Room at the University of Wisconsin – Platteville. Christina Grev did not recommend that these be accessioned. Gene Tesdahl moved to approve this. Deb Jenny Seconded. This passed by unanimous ballot.

Please contact Cody Grabhorn at (608) 348-3301 or museumdirector@platteville.org if you are unable to attend or if attendance requires special accommodation.

III. Director's Monthly Report (Cody Grabhorn)

- Museum Progress Report
 - a) Attendance, Education, and Programs
 - General public visitation: Up from last year.
 - School Field Trips: 218 since last meeting 514 for the year.
 - Visiting Curator opening reception and talk: Friday, Nov. 7, 4-6pm.
 - Winter Speaker Series: We have all four speakers lined up. Posters are printed. Fareharbor will handle ticketing for these events. The first one is Dec. 4, 2025. These are \$6 per talk or \$20 for series pass.
 - Museum After Dark event: We plan this event around music. This social event on Friday, January 23, 2025 features Patrick Daniels and will showcase music boxes and other musical items.
 - b) Operations
 - Ammunition dummies – Arrived at destination. These were shipped out on September 22, 2025. They did make it to the US Navy in Virginia.
 - PCF Grant: Waiting to hear back on our current PCF grant. The current need for mannequins in
 - Facilities Tech job – filled, Robert Hooks will serve this role.
 - UW-Platteville class visits to the museum: Dr. Doug Adams continues to bring future teachers to collaborate with the museums. This fall this has included shadowing field trips.
 - Attic organization: Support from city council leads to insulating the attic as a CIP Project and City Council operation budget meeting.
 - c) Buildings and Grounds
 - Mine Train work: The radiator was repaired. HH Goodney offered labor as an in-kind gift. The museum purchased parts only. Thank you.
 - Mural project in the museum back yard
 - d) Strategic Plan Progress Report
 - Social Media Growth – Facebook up 3.9% of 5% goal, Instagram up 9% of goal 25% goal. We aim to finish the year with a social media push in November and December.
 - School field trips – 2025 was a banner year. We increased by 350 students. This is already near our goal for 2029. If we aim for a 1% year over year this will get us to 1175-1600. This is manageable growth. It remains important to build and maintain relationships with teachers, administrators, districts, and households.
 - Teachers evening at the museum: This special event aims to welcome educators and nurture these relationships. This is slated for February.
 - Social Media Campaign about the museum: Each month a different focus will explain the museum to social media followers. This will include topics: history of the museums, budgeting and community involvement,

programming, collections management, staff profiles, etc. This will also go out in the quarterly newsletter and email chain.

- Maintenance plan that covers our daily procedures and locations of items and has projected maintenance projects for next 3-5 years. A fire safety map was recently created. This has improved safety and awareness. Staff also completed a helping aid for the education collection and object storage. These books and finding aids will be very helpful for orienting new staff.

IV. Friends of the Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums/Subcommittees Report (Deb Jenny)

- Miners Ball: Feb. 21, 2026. This collaboration between the Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums, the University of Wisconsin – Platteville, and other community partners.
- The Golf Outing: March 7, 2026: This is a mini-golf in the museums event.
- Gov. Tony Evers recently announced a new grant program. The Friends of Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums are applying for a \$700,000 grant (with a 50% match) from the Wisconsin Department of Administration's Non-State Local Projects Grant Program. The proposed improvements to the Museum Store and exterior entrance would welcome more visitors. The grant is due by the end of October. A vestibule and courtyard in the front of the museums is also part of this feasibility study. The project, if funded, will greatly improve accessibility, use, and safety. Larry Bowden moved to support this grant. Joanne Wilson seconded. This passed by unanimous ballot.
- Nov 1: 4-6pm Is the Friends of the Museums annual meeting. All are welcome.

V. Old Business

Saturday, Oct. 25

- 10am-12noon – Pasty pick-up at A&W. This fundraiser from the Friends of the Museums
- 11am-1pm Sweet Treats on Main – This includes a craft and a free train ride
- The evening will see the Haunted Mine Tours

VI. New Business

- Holiday Magic on Main on December 12 is looking for a place for reindeer. The Museums are a proposed location.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 2025, 4:45 PM – 6:45 PM at The Mining & Rollo Jamison Museums.