



Joint Board Alignment and Collaboration Session MINUTES

June 29, 2026

Call to order at 4:37 by Dick Davies

Bob Woodward:

- Explained this is an opportunity for the two groups to get together and talk about how things are going at the Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Chad Wilson, HR Manager for the City of Platteville
Caz Muske, City Manager
Duane Deyoung, Treasurer of the Friends of the MRJM
Mark Haas, Friends Board
Eileen Nickels, Friends Board
Hap Daus, Friends Board, VP
Deb Jenny, Friends Board President
Aaron Pluemer, Friends Board
Joanne Wilson, Museum Board
Gene Tesdahl, Museum Board, Platteville Historic Reenactment subcommittee
Tony McFall, Council Rep for the Museum Board
Dee Wolfe, Secretary of Friends Board
Dick Davies, President of the Museum Board
Garrett Jones, Museum Board Secretary could not attend

VISIONING

- **SUCSESSES:** Heritage Days on fourth of July, Miner's Ball Fundraiser, Collaborations between the museums and UW-Platteville students, new exhibits and displays, Endowment is now positive, the financial growth of the friends group balance sheet has grown, improvement plans of the physical plant have grown, functioning train, noteworthy grants earned, new logo, increased field trips, younger people involved in Driftless history, and expanded cataloging.
- **OPPORTUNITIES:** Fully fund both the Museum Specialist and Executive Director, there is an opportunity to improve communication, field trip funding is strong, Hire Marketing Position vacant for three years, fully fund museum educator position, improve marketing for Driftless Regional tourism.
- **STRENGTHS:** Engaged volunteers in this room and talented staff are strengths, commitment of all involved to educate all visitors to these institutions, varied programming, Platteville is a city that is growing, remain a city that values museums, all visitors leave with positive experience, continue to fulfill mission, unique site, vast collection,
- **FIVE-YEAR VISION:** Continuity of primary positions, Increase Retention of Museum Staff, become Driftless visitation center, gain more involvement from younger people in programming and on boards, Campus improvement plan and strengthen physical plant, Continue to help stabilize museum funding, get Platteville to see the Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums as a necessity like the public library, police and fire department, offering more groups to host events at the museums, growing philanthropy

STRATEGIC PLAN: This strategic plan (2025-2029) created by the museum board and the friends board made comments and suggestions and was adopted by the common council. This is an active plan that guides day-to-day operations at the Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums.

- Role of the MUSEUM BOARD: Follow the strategic plan, fulfill the mission, and expand visitation.
- Role of the FRIENDS OF THE MINING AND ROLLO JAMISON MUSEUMS: Serve as the friendraising/fundraising arm of these museums, provide volunteers, support special events including: plant sale, miners' ball, Platteville Historical Re-enactment, and Heritage Day. Continue to collaborate with the Museum Board to support the museums.

STRUCTURE: The Mining and Rollo Jamison Museums or Museum Department is under the city manager who reports to common council. The executive director is a direct report to the city manager and attends common council meetings. The museum board serves in an advisory capacity to ensure that the museum director follows the mission of the museums and provides educational and cultural opportunities for visitors. The Friends Board provides development funds to support museum staff and programming.

IMPROVEMENT: Continue to follow the three phases of physical plan improvements, strengthen support for staff, improve communication between all groups, clarify expectations for the next executive museum director.

EXPECTATIONS: The Friends of the Museums expect more support from the city of Platteville for fundraising, marketing, and bookkeeping (managing budgets).

NEXT STEPS:

REVIEW OF JOB ADS: A review of job descriptions for EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR and MUSEUM SPECIALIST positions is still needed.

CLARIFY and RE-EXAMINE EXPECTATIONS:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CITY MANAGER, MUSEUM BOARD, and FRIENDS BOARD

INTERIM PERIOD: Managing the museum will be a struggle until the new executive director is hired.

Adjournment at 6:25 p.m.