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MEETING AGENDA

JCPRD Administration Building
7900 Renner Road, Shawnee Mission, KS 66219

July 6, 2026
5:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

DISCUSSION & ACTION

- A. Acceptance of the Museum Advisory Council Meeting Minutes - Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture

OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Division Reports (attached)

ADJOURNMENT

Johnson County Museum Advisory Council Minutes Tuesday, June 16, 2026 – 4:30pm



I. Called to Order in the Arts & Heritage Center Conference Room at 4:34pm.

Council Members

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☒ Tonia Blue | ☒ Erik Hage |
| ☐ Courtney Craig | ☒ Gary L. Hicks |
| ☒ Donna Davis (via Microsoft Teams) | ☒ Jean Hughes |
| ☒ Jennifer Day | ☒ Nancy Wallerstein |

Staff

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☒ Mary McMurray, Museum Director | ☒ Tish Boyer, Curator of Collections |
| ☒ Susan Mong, Superintendent of Culture (via Microsoft Teams) | ☒ Bradley Debrick, Administrative Assistant |

II. Welcome, Tish Boyer, Curator of Collections

- A. Tish introduced herself and offered highlights from her short time here.
- B. Mary reminded everyone that MAC is a board appointed by the County Commission that watches over the Museum's collection – an asset of the County. Tish has already begun building relationships with County partners in Facilities and at the Operations Center.
- C. MAC members introduced themselves.

III. JCPRD Update (Susan Mong)

- A. The first [World Cup Watch Party](#) is tonight at Theatre in the Park. Twenty watch parties scheduled between June 16 and July 19. Tonight's party is at capacity with 2500 registered attendees. This Friday's watch party (on Juneteenth) will have Daniel Montoute in attendance. Daniel is the artist commissioned by the County to create Juneteenth 2026 artwork.
 1. Erik announced Friday's game is at 2pm between the United States and Australia. Susan said there will be shaded areas and cooling stations.
- B. Terry Anderson, Superintendent of Safety and Outdoor Education, is retiring this week. His reception is 3:00 Thursday, June 18 at the Arts & Heritage Center.
- C. JCPRD budget presentation this week at Board of County Commissioners meeting.
- D. Twenty-five members from Citizen Pottawatomie Nation will meet at Firekeeper's Circle in Heritage Park next Thursday, June 25 for a ceremony.
- E. Theatre in the Park won the Universal Accessibility award from the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials for improvements at the outdoor theatre. The award announcement can be found in this [YouTube video](#) beginning at 39:13.
 1. Jean asked if Courtney Craig consulted in the accessibility improvements at TIP. Susan acknowledged Courtney's advocacy and confirmed there are adult changing tables in the new restroom facility.

IV. Disclosure of Personal Collecting (Mary McMurray)

- A. Mary referred to the "Personal Collection" section of the Collection Management Policy and described how it pertains to our staff's personal activities.

- B. Mary described the personal collections held by Camille Kulig (Curator of Engagement) and Tish Boyer (Curator of Collections). The Museum has received written acknowledgements of these collections from both staff members.

V. Finance Report (Mary McMurray)

- A. Revenues
 - 1. Up \$14k or 2.5% over last year – program fees, ad valorem, gate receipts
 - 2. Minor decreases in memberships and Museum store sales
- B. Expenses
 - 1. Up \$40k or 8% over last year – personnel medical, printing and exhibit materials for Everyday Democracy, and deposits for upcoming traveling exhibits
 - 2. Nancy asked about sponsorship levels for traveling exhibits and Gary asked about the dates for guitar exhibit. Mary will follow-up on both questions.
- C. Net positive nearly \$38k

VI. Museum Update & Mission Moment (Mary McMurray)

- A. Exceptional Juneteenth event on Saturday, June 6.
 - 1. Juneteenth attendance was 847. Museum Free Day sponsored by Panasonic Energy attendance was 644.
 - 2. Mary shared other highlights from the event: library reading nook, musical theatre performance, poetry reading, Juneteenth commissioned art, food vendors.
 - 3. Save the date for next year's Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 12.
- B. Mary mentioned the 2027 Legacies of Redlining Summit will be on Friday, November 13.
- C. Everyday Democracy books now for sale in the Museum Store.
- D. Summer camps are in full swing and the building is loaded with 120-160 children every day in various camps.
 - 1. Jean asked how many camps there are daily. Bradley said it varies between six and nine camps from week to week.
- E. Museum is working with County Facilities and Kansas Historical Society for a possible roof replacement project at Lanesfield. This would be done in 2027 in time for the updated exhibit to open in the Lanesfield Visitor Center.
- F. [Sunflower Summer](#) (a free admission program by Kansas Tourism) is July 9 to August 2. Mary encouraged MAC members to contact Kansas legislators to support this program.
 - 1. Jennifer asked what the impact will be having Sunflower Summer and advanced voting happening at the same time. Mary believed parking issues would be minimal since voting is usually a quick in-and-out, but we may consider adding digital signage during that time to promote Sunflower Summer.
- G. Andrew Gustafson, Curator of Interpretation, has started research for our next in-house designed exhibit on the 1980s. Mary noted the Toy & Miniature Museum is also working on a 1980s-themed exhibit.
- H. Mission Moment: Mary provided details about the [Award of Excellence we received from the American Association for State and Local History](#) for our water exhibit. She emphasized the partnerships that formed around the exhibit and showed a slide that featured quotes from those important partners. Mary reminded MAC that our impact extends well beyond our gallery space.

VII. Friends of the Museum Update (Mary McMurray and Nancy Wallerstein)

- A. Nancy stated planning for the Holiday Mixer is underway. Presenting sponsor is First Business Bank and entertainment sponsor is Maciel Wealth Management. Mixer is on Wednesday evening, December 2.
- B. Meadowbrook Park Festival was Friday, June 5. Tonia, Jean, and four Friends members all took shifts at the Museum tent. We collected 203 email addresses and have already sent all of those contacts a code for discounted Museum membership. Jean said the Museum booth was clearly a hot spot and the spinner wheel was a big draw.
- C. Mary encouraged everyone to save the date for next year (June 4, 2027) and plan to attend the VIP reception in the Meadowbrook Park Clubhouse.
 - 1. Nancy asked if we had the TipTap at the booth. Mary said we did not so as not to compete with the Foundation for public art fundraising.

VIII. Questions or items for discussion (Jean Hughes)

- A. Jean asked Mary if there is anything MAC can do to support the Museum. Mary stated the Friends are meeting next week and will be working on plans for the 2027 anniversary year. There may be some ways for MAC to support. Nancy announced sponsorship levels for the anniversary events and Mary offered to provide sponsorship flyers.

Meeting adjourned at 5:23pm.

July 6, 2026

Culture Division – Susan Mong, Superintendent

- JCPRD hosted members of the Potawatomi Tribe from ten states on Thursday, June 25, at “Fire Keepers Circle” in Heritage Park. Approximately 40 people attended the gathering, where George Godfrey, President of the Trail of Death Association, shared remarks. “Fire Keepers Circle” was also featured in the June 2026 edition of *Kansas City Magazine*.
- The Theatre in the Park site is serving as a wonderful, family-friendly site for World Cup watch parties. The 2027 Theatre season will resume on July 18 with productions of “How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying,” “The Little Mermaid,” and “The Hunchback of Notre Dame.”
- The Museum will issue an RFP for a three-year phased update to KidScape. Planned improvements include the development of a new environment, an update to the theater environment, and enhanced educational and engagement experiences. The project will be partially funded by the Museum Friends Group, a proud affiliate of the Parks and Recreation Foundation of Johnson County.
- The artists selected for the 2026 JCPRD Poster Project are Destyni Meadows, Stephanie Fenzl, Mariah Bassett, and Kris Mattern. Rounding out the park series, these posters will feature Camp Branch Glade, Coffee Creek Streamway Park, Heritage Park, and Kill Creek Streamway Park.
- Planning is underway for the 2026 Hispanic Heritage Month Event, scheduled for October 7 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.