

SOLDIERS MEMORIAL COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 16, 2020 at 3pm.
ONLINE-ONLY MEETING VIA ZOOM

—Roll Call of Soldiers Memorial Commissioners (Lynnea Magnuson, Chair, Soldiers Memorial Commission and Superintendent, SMMM, City of St. Louis)

In attendance: Jeffrey Boyd, Jason Fletcher, Lynnea Magnuson, Bruce Yampolsky

Absent: Corinne Bardgett, Freddie Dunlap, Maurice Falls, Tom Gilmore, Judith Hanses

—Pledge of Allegiance (led by Bruce Yampolsky)

—Approval of meeting minutes from November 21, 2019 and January 16, 2020 (Commissioners)
Tabled--No Quorum.

—Kate Scott (MHS Collection Manager, SMMM) promoted to Collection Manager with the departure of Shay Henrion.

—Mark Sundlov (MHS Director at SMMM)

-Summary of COVID response and update on current operating practices. Working closely with City of St. Louis Health Dept. to follow guidelines. Closed March 18 and reopened about a month ago with reduced operating hours--now open Wednesday through Sunday 10am. to 5pm. Capacity limited to 15pp maximum in each gallery with oneway traffic flow. Added sanitation stations. Staggered staffing. All onsite public programs, rentals, building use for events are cancelled through 2020. As of now there will be no on-site programming at Soldiers Memorial through the end of the year.

-Staff have successfully introduced virtual programming in the absence of on-site programming, including a Memorial Day program and we have expanded "Chow and Chat" to twice monthly and now get 50 to 60 people attending even nationally. For Memorial Day we did a series of three videos with our volunteers telling the stories of individuals who are memorialized outside at Soldiers Memorial in the Court of Honor or on the Cenotaph. Close to 2000 people watched these videos. We're turning our attention now to reaching the K through 12 audience.

-USS St. Louis commissioning is on 8/8/20. Barbara Taylor is sponsoring the USS St. Louis and has loaned objects for our USS St. Louis exhibit on the second floor at Soldiers Memorial. Channel 9 is producing a documentary on the USS St.Louis, which will include the new USS St. Louis.

—Mike Venso talks about the next big exhibit that will open at Soldiers Memorial called Vietnam: On the homefront and the frontlines scheduled to open on November 11, 2022.

—Call for adjournment (Lynnea Magnuson), seconded by Commissioners. Meeting adjourned.