

DATE: August 26, 2024
TO: Jessica Vealitzek, Chair
Operations Committee
FROM: Alyssa Firkus
Director of Education

RECOMMENDATION: Approve and Accept New Donations to the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County's Collections.

STRATEGIC DIRECTION SUPPORTED: Communication, Education, and Outreach

FINANCIAL DATA: There is no financial impact at this time.

BACKGROUND: The Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County ("Dunn Museum") "collects material culture representing the people, places, and events of Lake County, Illinois" (Collection Policies, Scope of Collections, p. 4). The majority of the Dunn Museum's historic collection were acquired by the County of Lake from the privately run Lake County Museum of History in 1965 for the purpose of "preserve(ing) and maintain(ing) for future generations the cultural history of Lake County" (Resolution No. 24, dated October 12, 1965). These collections were officially transferred to the District in 1989.

The Dunn Museum is frequently offered donations by members of the general public. Each donation offer is considered against criteria established in the Dunn Museum's approved Collection Policies. Donations that do not meet these criteria are declined. Since March 2024, the Dunn Museum has received offers of donations from 12 individuals, two of which were declined by the Dunn Museum's Collection Committee.

The donations listed on the attached Exhibit A meet the criteria established in the Dunn Museum's approved Collection Policies and have been reviewed, and are being recommended by, the Dunn Museum's Collections Committee for acceptance into the Dunn Museum's historic collections. There is adequate space to properly store and care for these items. Under the Collection Policies, the Operations Committee is authorized to accept the donations, because they do not require a purchase of more than \$30,000.00.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: Exhibitions and Collections Manager, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Finance, Manager of Board Operations and Corporate Counsel

MOTION: Motion to approve and accept new acquisitions into the Bess Bower Dunn Museum of Lake County's Collections as provided in Exhibit A to staff's August 26, 2024, memorandum.

APPROVED:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____
 Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____

New Acquisitions Inventory

August 26, 2024

- Disaster Plan for Zion Nuclear Plant- 1984.
Donor: Chris Meter
- “Hickory Dickory Dock” Framed chromolithograph by Mary Louise “Mollie” Spoor- Waukegan artist.
Donor: LCFPD staff purchase
- *Bobby and Betty with the Workers-* illustrated by Mary Louise “Mollie” Spoor- Waukegan artist.
Donor: Andrea Walker (LCFPD staff)
- “Pocket Billiards Shoot-out” Poster from Island Lake, September 16-20, 1981.
Donor: Steve Furnett (LCFPD staff)
- Nine Fort Sheridan building and utilities schematic drawings and plaque from Fort Sheridan Chapel featuring original brass family nameplates.
Donor: Highwood Historical Society
- Child’s navy-blue dress, ca 1942.
Donor: Ellen Powell
- Two binders of color slides from Lake County ca. 1978 (businesses, industry, attractions, malls, schools, hospitals).
Donor: Fox Lake-Grant Township Historical Society
- School ledger- Half Day Vernon Township ca.1865 and later.
Donor: Jane Ellen Keroson
- Grayslake Dairy Bottle
Donor: Cheryl Rogers
- Large, miscellaneous collection of photos (Taylor & Wahl Wholesale, Waukegan), school materials (yearbooks, programs, etc.) medals (Shoot-O-Rama, Scouting, Glen Flora Country Club), and North Shore train line related items (passes, photos, tickets)
Donor: Anonymous