

# **Museum of Printing**

## **Annual Meeting of the Members**

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**June 29, 2019 4:00 PM**  
**15 Thornton Avenue**  
**Haverhill, Massachusetts**

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The Annual Meeting of The Friends of the Museum of Printing, Inc. was called to order by the President, Frank Romano, at 4:10 PM. The Clerk, John Adams, confirmed that a quorum had been achieved and the meeting was duly constituted.

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on May 12, 2018, upon motion duly made and seconded, were approved by a unanimous vote.

Frank Romano welcomed members to the Annual Meeting and, prior to calling for the Treasury Report, commented on the state of the Museum. Very substantial progress has been made. While the Museum was located in North Andover, a typical Saturday might have as few as 2 or 3 visitors. Now a typical Saturday will see 30 people visiting with Saturday revenues averaging \$300 - \$400. In summary, Frank noted that the Museum is in very good shape, but the long term strength of the Museum will depend upon bringing forward a new generation of people committed to the Museum.

Laurie Hartman presented a report on Treasury. She noted that 2018 was a solid year with \$93,000 in revenue and a net income of \$12,000 after \$80,000 in expenses. Cash on hand remains similar to the close of the prior fiscal year at \$149,000. Laurie reported that the current fiscal year is looking strong. She called attention to the

extensive and vital contributions by Frank. In particular, Frank has made monthly contributions of \$4,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 over the last 3 years. Frank has also paid for the parking lot, donated the building and his personal library and made a one time contribution to the endowment equal to \$100,000.

A review of acquisitions and de-accessions was preceded by a moment to remember the passing of Scott Kelly. Scot has been a major contributor and has gifted the Nuremberg Chronicles to the Museum. An extensive collection of equipment has been donated by the Millford Cabinet Press. Most of that material has been moved to the Museum and duplicates will be sold. A letterpress studio was set up at Northeastern University for a fee of \$10,000. Finally, Laurie noted that the outlook for fiscal 2010 is similar to 2009, but with the expectation that it will result in a break even net.

Laurie then led a discussion operations and outlook for the future. As Frank noted, visits are up, the reputation is growing, there are expanded offerings and the Museum seems ready to take it to the next level. That may require paid staff. Volunteers have been crucial and will continue to be but with the increase in activity the Museum may be at the maximum output of volunteers. Efforts to increase an endowment will be important as will be grants and fund raising in general. In addition to Frank's contributions, Laurie noted that John Rogers on Operations, Carolyn Muskat on Membership and Jim Hamilton on Social Media have all made important contributions. Upon motion made and duly seconded, the Treasurer's report was accepted by a unanimous vote.

Frank then reviewed current projects. The indexing of the Penrose Annuals was a very significant step and was carried out by Nancy Fenton. Researchers want this material and the index will generate interest and supporting funds. Frank noted that Museums with metal get less support than art museums. His vision for the future includes greater emphasis on research, paper and typographical

material. A very interesting innovation has been the introduction of the Zappar app which creates an artificial reality of Frank's presentations.

The terms of two Board Members, Ted and Laurie are expiring. Upon motion duly made and seconded they were elected for new terms of three years.

Frank then opened the discussion for New Business. John appeared at Hatch Show Printing in Nashville and gave a speech aimed at obtaining ephemera which could add to the research base. He suggested that the event be held at the Museum next year. Dave Greer has given John Rogers a lot of material including wood type and a rare sample book which the Museum has permission to reprint. Frank suggested that the Museum move toward having its own publishing imprint. The Wood Engravers Triennial was held at the Museum and the Boston Print Makers event was very successful. The Printing Arts Fair will be held on September 21. Frank noted that there is an immediate need for a very large scanner. This will require approximately \$50,000 unless one can be donated. Katie Corrigan reported on the scanning of colonial newspapers in Beverly. Carolyn reported on the Big Ink event. The very large format printing and foam printing are popular. Lance noted that calligraphy is a good way to get kids started on typography. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted

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John Adams, Secretary and Clerk