

Museum of Vanning and Hall of Fame, Inc.
Executive Committee Minutes
January 23, 2025

The Executive Committee of the Museum of Vanning and Hall of Fame, Inc. held a teleconferencing meeting on January 23, 2025. In attendance were Board Members Joe Madonia, President; Bonnie Madonia, Secretary; and Lynn Harmonson, Treasurer; also, Officers of the Corporation Larry Gibson, Financial Coordinator; Susie Martin, Member Coordinator; Bob Bulinda, Senior Advisor; Howard Furtak, Advisor; and Eric Walker, Advisor.

[This was a combined meeting of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee. Any motion requiring Board approval was voted on only by Board members.]

Joe Madonia called the meeting to order at 4:16 PM EST.

Larry made a motion to waive the reading of the minutes of the meeting held November 22, 2024. Howard seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Old Business

- Joe and Howard discussed the Hall of Fame in detail. They added to each of the categories people, clubs, and vendors from back the “the old days.” The list they made will be sent to Susie so that she can type it up. Once the list is complete, she will email it out to the Executive Committee to review and add up to five other nominations as they see a need. Once the list is complete, the full committee will begin investigating bios for the people, clubs, and vendors on the list. Once bios are complete, the committee will send the list to members of the museum for voting. Since this is all going to take time, the committee decided to announce at the Council of Councils meeting that the vote has been delayed due to technical issues. The vote will last until the Nationals Truck-in in Minnesota in July. More discussion needed and has been handed over to the Fundraising & Publicity Committee.
The Committee decided, moving forward, people on the list would stay on the list for next year, if not voted into the Hall of Fame. Others will be added as nominated.
- Joe told us that his basement was full to the max. He bought twenty containers to begin the process of sorting the stuff he has in his basement area. That really is not enough but they will stack to the ceiling easily. Storage is now at a premium at the Museum. Joe has talked to the people who planted the palm trees, and he will take the shed down and prepare the ground for a container. Joe has researched the cost, and we will be able to get one for between \$1500

and \$5000. The only thing he does not know is where the money will come from. Howard said that Tim was coming on Saturday to take measurements of the storage units he has so we will know what we need to get in a trailer. Earlier he had a conversation with Eric about buying a trailer that would hold everything and pulling that trailer to Florida. After finishing with it, then sell the trailer for either the same as it cost or for a profit for the Museum. Eric told us that a trailer could cost anywhere from \$3500 up to \$6000. You would need to be sure the trailer was in excellent pulling condition. The trailer brakes, tires, and suspension would need checked by a mechanic to be sure it is ready to haul the weight of a car at the very least. More discussion needed so handed to the Facilities committee to continue the investigation.

- Larry brought up Curator compensation for clarification. Stipend would be coming as usual for the beginning of the year. In May, the Sprint Car Museum will be sending the designated \$24,000 to the Museum. T that Joe would receive \$15,000 of that amount and the rest would go to the endowment fund. This will be for just the year 2025 only. We do not know what the 2026-year amount will compare.
 - Also noted was that the contract that Joe signed as curator will be good for only the year 2025 and a new contract will need signed in 2026.
- Susie mentioned the annual report and the need for two different inventories. The inventory of the gift shop and the inventory of the displays. Susie asked if Bob could help with the display count since he is a member of the Facilities Committee. Bob agreed to help. Joe said that Maribeth was to come to the Museum for a discussion next week and start as an employee shortly after if all was agreeable. This discussion handed over to the Facility and Collections committee.
- Larry reminded the committee that corporate sponsorship was still on the table for targeted fund raising. Joe said he was aware of this, and he has a list of companies, but he does not know who in those companies to contact about sponsorship. Howard said he was the same. All the people he knew are no longer with the company or have retired now. Susie said, it is a whole new generation of people now and we will have to investigate who we need to sponsorship letters. All parties agreed that more investigation into the companies is needed, and it was handed over to the Fundraising & Publicity Committee. Susie said the committee also needs to discuss what the different levels of sponsorship will get the sponsors.
- Larry said we need a media coordinator. Lex Linton was originally thought to fill this position, but she is busy with her kids, job, and the Nationals next year so may not have the time to give. Eric said he would do the job but was not sure he

could devote enough time either. The job would include multiple web outlets on social media. The discussion tabled for now.

- Susie discussed how bad Venmo was for the Museum and other like 501c3 charities. A web search brought to light that most charities trying Venmo were unable to use it. Susie had our Venmo account closed. Barabra Brown paid us \$525.00 at the Museum event in December but I am not able to recover the money from Venmo. I have emailed Barb to ask if she would send us the money in another format, i.e., check, credit card or PayPal. As of today, there has been no reply from Bev, but she had a death in her family and may be otherwise occupied. Howard asked if he should contact her. She is a good friend of his. Susie said to let it ride a bit longer. Larry also said he would contact Bev if no reply came from her before Monday.
- Adopt-A-Van was discussed by Susie. She let the committee know she needs to finish the 2024 budget detailing before attempting to do the brochure, but she also needs to have details about the vans as well as detailed pictures of insides of the vans. A bio on each van will help. How, what, when, where, and how the van was created. We also need a detailed list of the sponsorships. What will each level of sponsorship be entitled to receive? This was handed over to the Fundraising & Publicity Committee for further discussion.
- Joe discussed that the Board voted to have him order the Lifetime Membership badges, but there were so many things going on that he just has not taken the time to do it just yet. He has it on his active list.
- Joe said he knew that Susie had asked for a detailed list of inventories from BJM's but again, with all that has been happening around the Museum, he has not had time to do that inventory. It was mentioned that there are other forms of getting rid of the merchandise such as Market place on Facebook and Ebay. This discussion tabled for now.
- The Vanopoly discussion tabled until December at the next Museum of Vanning Christmas Fundraiser when we will be gathering in Florida.
- Susie said that the raffle we are doing is going well. We have covered the cost of the raffle and have \$977 total. We are still selling tickets but for now it is slow since there are not many events. Larry, Joe, Eric, Lex, and Susie have tickets to sell. Hopefully, sales will pick up in the next few months.

New Business

- Joe said with Maribeth coming on board, getting things on the website to sell will improve. She will start soon but inventory is a priority. Then she will begin to take pictures of other items in storage to sell.
- Larry said we need to see about trademarking the Museum Logo. Susie asked Joe to please get permission from Rat Fink in writing to use Rat Fink on our logo. Joe said he was not sure it was necessary because of all the changes to the Rat

Fink. He has a helmet on; he has JM instead of RF and just some other small things. Susie asked Joe to talk to them anyway and just make sure there was no objection. She said it is better to be safe. Joe said he would discuss it with her.

- Susie discussed that the monthly statements would be coming every month from here on from Bonnie. These can be shared on Google drive site by drag and drop if anyone wants to use it. Larry stated that he thinks that only the actual corporate people should have access, not the advisors. Susie will provide instructions to anyone who wishes to use the drive. She has placed all her documents concerning the museum on the site.
- Joe told us about an opportunity that he thinks we should take advantage of with the Nationals. He asked Janet Townsend about sponsoring the sticker for each van at the Nationals. He said we would need to order at least eight hundred stickers, and the cost would be about Three Hundred to Four Hundred Dollars total. There was a board discussion then Larry said the board would need to vote. Lynn called for the vote and Bonnie seconded. The vote was unanimously approved.
- Susie mentioned that her daughter has a button making press and that she may make buttons for the goody bags as well.
- Howard asked if our sponsors were going to do a matching program in 2025. Larry answered, no. The matching program was only for 2024.
- Joe told the committee that we already have three reservations for next year's Christmas event. He has blocked thirty rooms for the event so we should not have the problem with refugees next year.
- Joe said he has 4 or 5 new bricks for this year already.

Joe asked if there was any other new business.

The next Executive Committee meeting was not yet set.

Larry made a motion that the meeting adjourn; Joe seconded it. Meet adjourned at 5:01 PM EST.