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Minutes of Bronze Door Steering Council Meeting

September 17, 2026

(Reports referenced in these minutes are on file in the Individual Philanthropy Office)

1. Sandy Armstrong called the meeting to order at 1430.

Those in attendance:

Members	Staff	Guests
Carole Rekrut (virtual)	Sherri Fosdick, Individual Philanthropy Officer	Tina Bass, Venue Experiences Manager
Gerry Hanley	Sabrina Jones, Senior Director of Advancement	Leland Riddlesperger, Archivist
Sandy Parks		
Sandy Armstrong		
Corky Brooks		
Avery Collins		
Stuart Katz (virtual)		
Cynthia Katz(virtual)		
Margie Holt		

2. Minutes of the August 20, 2026, Steering Council were reviewed and accepted for filing.

3. Avery Collins provided the financial report through July 2026. There were no exceptional items. The report was accepted as presented. After discussion of projected income and expense through YE 2026 Council approved expenditure of $135,000 for projects to be selected at the Annual Dinner.

4. Membership. Membership remains at 112.

5. Mariners Moment: Archivist Leland Riddlesperger provided an update on the migration of archival collections data into ArchiveSpace. This was a project funded by Bronze Door in 2025. An excellent presentation which indicates work is proceeding as planned and on schedule.

6. Museum Update (Sabrina Jones):

- Only two projects will be presented for funding at the Annual Dinner. The museum has received a renewed five-year government contract for the *Monitor* project with $1.7M available for the current year starting 1 September. Future years are subject to annual appropriations Of this year's appropriation, $950k will be allocated to capital projects including finalizing *Monitor* guns conservation and display. As a result, the museum has withdrawn its request for Bronze Door funding for the guns. Council members felt this was an outcome that would be welcomed by the membership.
- The gift shop has been permanently closed. It has continually operated at a loss. A small selection of items will be available at the admissions desk and on-line.

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Initial non-reaction from visitors suggest closure has been unnoticed.

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7. Old Business:

- 2027 Nominees: Olaf Elton has agreed to be nominated to serve on the Council.
- Behind The Scenes on September 24 is well subscribed with 65 reservations to date.
- Annual Dinner
    - The long-standing model for the bar has been for steering council members to provide the liquor and supplies. As an alternative, the caterer was requested to quote for this service. Council felt the caterer option was too costly and agreed to revert to past practice. The museum will check to see if it can obtain a one-off liquor license for this event. If approved the museum will purchase the liquor; otherwise, council members will provide. The museum will provide wine, beer, soft drinks and other supplies.

8. The meeting adjourned at 1540.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerry Hanley

Secretary