

DATE: March 31, 2025

TO: Sarah Knizhnik, 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. 5). 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 August 2024, the Dunn Museum has received offers of 10 donations, 2 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 March 31, 2025, memorandum.

APPROVED:

Date: _____ Roll Call Vote: Ayes: _____ Nays: _____

Voice Vote Majority Ayes; Nays: _____

New Acquisitions Inventory

March 31, 2025

- Abstract of title for Chicago Spring Bluff Addition, Winthrop Harbor, 1891.
- Five souvenir glasses with design of “The Farm,” city skyline and “I love Adlai”
- Portraits of Adlai E. Stevenson II taken by Yousuf Karsh
- Adlai E. Stevenson II campaign buttons, books, memorabilia and magazines as displayed at the historic Stevenson home in Mettawa.
- Long Grove baseball team photo, 1908.
- Spinning wheel belonging to Ann Pollock Coudrey (1831-1901) of Millburn.
- Las Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chevaux hat, pin and card belonging to WWI veteran Russel Potterton (1897-1984).
- A New England Primrose by Adele Sarpy Morrison with illustrations by Charles O. Longabaugh of Grayslake.