

MUSEUM OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SDSHS Board of Trustees Report

May – July 2023

Exhibition

The galleries were cleared on schedule for the renovation project. Large functional objects that cannot be removed from the gallery were placed on specially designed carts and protectively covered to enable the construction crew to move the objects throughout the project. These objects are large stones and vehicles.

History on the Road has successfully place objects in Sioux Falls (twice), Spearfish, and Yankton. There is still one more exhibit coming to Pierre, as well as at the temporary quarters at the Northridge Plaza. These installations will be the last for now as all remaining collections are sealed in place as of June 9, 2023.

An RFP for the schematic design II/design-build of the new exhibit, a project to begin in July and conclude by December 6, 2025. Staff are reviewing proposals and a firm will likely have been selected by time of the board meeting.

Collections

Two single moccasins were transferred to the Archaeological Resource Center, another division of SDSHS, as they fall under requirements of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. This unit has expertise in situating artifacts that fall under this act.

Moving the collection concluded on June 2, 2023. The museum staff with the help of Crozier Fine Arts moved 1,934 artifacts with a success rate of 98.55 percent. Statistically the result is greater than 97 percent meaning that the move was not due to chance. We successfully moved everything from the CHC to the warehouse, but the negligible error was due to scanning equipment malfunctions. We thank and praise staff for a well-executed move.

Interpretation

Staff recently participated in the Social Studies Education Summit coordinated by the Department of Education. There were 462 attendees over the course of 3 days, comprised of social studies teachers from across the state.

Staff is currently revising education kits to include the latest social studies standards.

Over 200 public visitors were served at an outreach event at Fort Sisseton.

Submitted by

David M. Grabitske, DBA, MPNA, CIG

Assistant Director and Museum Director