

Nickole Conley <nlconley@alaska.edu>

12:18 PM
(1 hour ago)

to me

Josh,

Please see the below email between Pat Druckenmiller and myself regarding acquisition of Bus 142 that is in the works.

Per my conversation with the Chancellor, he said that you were aware that we would be securing the bus in the near future and that we would need a permanent location for the bus. In preparing for this, I've asked Pat a few questions (see below) and he has some ideas on space/locations.

This request has come to my attention due to leading the UAF space committee, so I'm reaching out to see how we can best work together on this or if the MPC will just assume the lead?

Thanks,
Nickole Conley

Begin forwarded message:

From: Patrick Druckenmiller <psdruckenmiller@alaska.edu>

Subject: Re: Space Committee

Date: August 19, 2020 at 4:12:28 PM AKDT

To: Nickole Conley <nlconley@alaska.edu>

Hi Nickole-

I'll answer these in order:

Hi Pat,

Thanks for submitting this through the space survey.

Now that I've had a chance to review your submission, I have a few questions.

1. Does any funding from the state come with the bus?
No.

2. Do we now own the bus or is it just on loan and we have to follow terms and conditions from the state?

The bus is a State historic object and will always remain the property of the State.

The State recognizes us as experts in housing, caring for and exhibiting historic objects and we are designated State repository. Recognizing our shared objectives, we sign a Curation Agreement with them that outlines the conditions of our partnership. That MOU is currently being reviewed by our legal counsel before we send to AK DNR for their review. The conditions give us pretty free reign to do what need to do, and in this case there are a few understandings that exist; 1) the bus will not be used for profiteering, 2) the bus would be displayed in a respectful manner free of charge. DNR also understands that we are able to accept donations for the restoration and exhibition of the bus.

3. Can we charge a view/user fee or is the state absolutely apposed to that?

This is not in accordance with our understanding. BUT, if the bus is adjacent to the museum, I can guarantee you that many extra people will be drawn to the museum (they would park in the same parking lot!) and that after visiting the bus, they would come inside and see our galleries and pay an admission fee. At the end of the day this will increase visitation to the museum and help our bottom line.

4. Do we have an estimated budget for the bus? How is the budget being funded? The budget is in development. It has many facets. I'd expect the final costs to be in the ballpark of a couple of hundred thousand dollars.

As for funding we are taking two approaches at the moment:

1) we are working with a private organization, Friends of Bus 142 (friendsofbus142.com) headed by Carine McCandless (sister of Chris, who died in the bus) to raise funds through a web portal linked to the UA Foundation. This process is being ironed out right now in partnership with UAF Central Development. This has some real potential for revenue given that some of the big names associated with the film and book will be connected to this effort. We would establish two funds; one non-endowed fund for near term expenses (restoration, exhibition) and a larger, long term endowed fund for upkeep.

2) We are also going to apply for a grant through a federal agency called Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for money to create an exhibition. The specific program is call Save America's Treasures (<https://www.ims.gov/grants/available/save-americas-treasures>) and we have previously had success through this program, which funds up to \$250K per project. We think this would be a shoe in.

5. What the term on our agreement with the bus?

See above.

I'd like to stress that this is an internationally recognized historic object. It will be a tremendous draw to the Interior, UAF, and our museum. I also firmly believe that it will be emblematic of our efforts as a university to preserve history in a respectful and safe environment. This is a unique opportunity for our museum and comes at a time when we need to leverage outside funds during a period of dwindling State support.

On another note, I'm going to loop in the master planning committee so that we can work with them on a long term plan for the bus and where we position it on campus near the UAMN.

Great - thanks.

I know this is a special project and I am happy to meet and discuss with the committee any concerns and questions they have.

best

Pat

Thanks,

Nickole