



MAYOR AND COUNCIL

PROPOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2026-05

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE CREATION OF A GREATER DOVER MUSEUM

WHEREAS, upon taking the Oath of Office, Dover City Council members affirm the right of future generations to share in the rich historic and natural heritage of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dover has been the capital of the First State since 1777 and the County Seat of Kent County, Delaware, since 1683, thereby significantly shaping the history of the state, county, and city itself; and

WHEREAS, the City of Dover has been a proponent of downtown revitalization, economic development, and tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of Old Dover, Inc. (the “Friends”) have amassed a large collection of documents and memorabilia that is currently and inadequately housed at the Society’s offices, which doubles as the Dover Museum; and

WHEREAS, the Friends have resolved to support the creation of an independent non-profit corporation to be named the Greater Dover Museum, Inc., and will, to the extent possible, provide support with funds and other resources for the purpose of housing and expanding its collections and allowing for educational programming; and

WHEREAS, the Friends have resolved that the purpose of the Greater Dover Museum Inc. will be to receive and expend funds toward the construction, maintenance, and operation of the museum and be governed by a Board of Directors that broadly represents citizens and organizations interested in establishing said museum; and

WHEREAS, the Friends have asked the Dover City Council to collaborate with them on the creation of the Greater Dover Museum; and

WHEREAS, the Dover City Council finds that a Greater Dover Museum in Downtown Dover will add to a vibrant and thriving downtown and serve as a cultural, tourist, and retail destination for the region.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the city of Dover hereby express its support of the creation of the non-profit corporation to be named the Greater Dover Museum, Inc., and will, to the extent possible, provide support with funds and resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council shall:

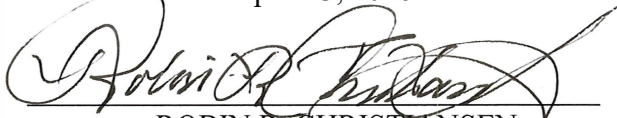
1. Appoint a representative to join the initial Board of Directors.

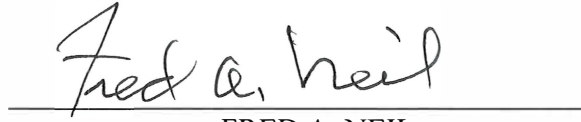


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2. Support the initial Board of Directors, including but not limited to the following members
 - a. The President of the Friends of Old Dover, Inc.
 - b. One member of the Friends of Old Dover, Inc. appointed by its Executive Committee.
 - c. The Mayor of the City of Dover or the Mayor's appointed representative.
 - d. The City Council President or the President's appointed representative.
 - e. A representative of the Dover Historic District Commission.
 - f. The Executive Director of the Downtown Dover Partnership or their appointee.
 - g. The Executive Director of the Kent County Tourism Corporation or their appointee.
 - h. The Superintendent of the First State Heritage Park or their appointee.
 - i. The State Historic Preservation Officer or their appointee.
 - j. The President of the Delaware State University or their appointee.
3. Establish that additional Board members may be selected by the original Board. New members to the Board shall be elected by a majority vote of the Board.

ADOPTED: * April 13, 2026


ROBIN R. CHRISTIANSEN
MAYOR


FRED A. NEIL
COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Actions History

04/13/2026 - Introduction - City Council