



# MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

## Supervisor Sheldon A. Wasserman - District 3

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Thursday, January 4, 2024

CONTACT: Eddie Cullen 414-793-0347

## Supervisor Wasserman Commends Milwaukee Public Museum Fundraising Efforts

MILWAUKEE – Recent discourse surrounding the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM) and their fundraising efforts on the “Streets of Old Milwaukee Club” Facebook group contained several questions directed toward both Supervisor Sheldon A. Wasserman and museum leadership. Supervisor Wasserman issued the following response:

*“I strongly disagree with the misinterpretation of my quote, which was intended to emphasize the importance of acknowledging MPM’s fundraising efforts to date, while reaffirming our expectations of this project coming to fruition. My comments were specific to defending the fundraising efforts made by MPM leadership, specifically, MPM CEO Dr. Ellen Censky. It has nothing to do with the move itself or the exhibits in question. I too love the Streets of Old Milwaukee and grew up in the Museum. I support the preservation of these exhibits.”*

*“The quote being circulated was a direct response to Sup. Clancy’s erroneous statements that the fundraising was failing to progress, and that taxpayer funds could be used improperly before the completion of the project. Not only were these statements factually incorrect, but they were made with overtones that called into question the necessity and integrity of a beloved Milwaukee institution and its leadership team.*

*“Publicly questioning a leader’s morality should require a significant amount of proof and sufficient argument. Furthermore, when government officials make such declarations, one hopes that their statements can be trusted. When these declarations are made without truth and honesty, they can be dangerous. Our words matter.*

*“Rumors regarding the Museums’ fundraising prompted both public and private conversation with Dr. Censky and Museum Representatives. During the Parks and Culture Committee meeting she assured the committee that the Museum is on track with their current fundraising campaign and is confident in their efforts. Vocally stating otherwise to make a political point is not something that Milwaukee County residents should have to put up with.”*

###