



BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Minutes
September 23, 2020
8am – 10:30am

The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met via virtual conference on September 23, 2020. Present were directors: Cathey Finlon, Marco Abarca, Luis Benitez, Cathy Carpenter Dea, Robert Musgraves, Ellen Roberts, Alan Salazar, Stephen Sturm, Penfield Tate III, Ann Alexander Walker and Tamra Ward. Also in attendance: Steve Turner, Dawn DiPrince, Cameron Bellamy, Chris Bowles, Inta Morris, Holly Norton, Cathy Rosset, Jeannie Vanderburg, and Lynne Winchell. Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

Finlon called the meeting to order at 8am and Brown conducted roll call. Finlon asked for approval of the July 22, 2020 board meeting minutes. Abarca motioned to approve; Sturm 2nd, motion passed. She also asked for a motion to approve the following Board Call Minutes: April 1, April 3, April 24, July 31, and August 28. Carpenter Dea motioned to approve; Sturm 2nd, motion passed.

Staff Acknowledgement & Philanthropy Report - The board thanked Kathi Grummel for her dedication and service as Chief Philanthropy Officer. Grummel is retiring on October 6. Turner complimented Grummel for her work and noted that because of her work, she is leaving a very successful program to hand off to the new hire. He shared that Shannon Joern will be filling Kathi’s vacancy. Joern has community experience and worked on arts based projects. She starts October 6. Finlon would like Joern’s bio circulated.

American Democracy Exhibition/Programming Report - Turner noted that the American Democracy exhibition is open. He is especially proud that the exhibit allows us to incorporate objects from Colorado. Finlon, Lynne and Salazar have worked on an opportunity for HC to honor Ruth Bader Ginsburg with a mural on 12th Avenue painted by a local artist on September 27th. There will be a public event on the 29th at 11:30am.

Upcoming Legislative Report - Vanderburg gave update on budgeting process. The JBC received the September revenue forecast. The good news is the state has a gap of \$1.6B instead of \$5B. Governor Polis announced mandatory furloughs for state employees to help with this gap. The economy is improving, but the state still needs to make significant budget cuts. The limited gaming revenues forecast came in higher than anticipated at \$82.3M. OSPB clarified that HC does not need to take a 10% reduction, and are recommending \$1M from NWCS to HC. The increase in OAHP fees can be applied toward our COP.

Musgraves suggests a paper with all of the legislative items/issues so everybody can understand the progress on our overall goal.

State Historic Preservation Office Report - this report was tabled.

Draft 2030 State Historic Preservation Plan - Ann Walker/Chris Bowles gave a summary of the plan and highlighted the specific framework - enhanced vision, education about value of preservation, guide telling complex stories, equitable values of HC through our strategic plan; and staff work.

State Register - Walker asked for board approval for state register nominations that were vetted by the AHPC; 3 rural properties -- 2 in Chaffee county and 1 in Alamosa county; Carpenter Dea motioned to approve; Ward 2nd, motion passed.

Financial Report - Cameron Bellamy reviewed the bar chart fund balances for FY20; the budget summary for the next 3 years and will continue to update this report. We are still working on FY19-20 audit findings and there are no new findings thus far. She would like to schedule a finance committee meeting in early October. She asked the board to let her know if they have any special update requests.

Musgraves had a few questions on a couple of lines in the P&L. Bellamy answered those for him. Musgraves also commented that our earned revenues are way below projects which is okay as long as we can manage expenses to match. Are we confident that we can do this? Turner is not convinced we will not have to take additional steps, but he is not sure what they are, or to what extent. We will have a better sense by November/December to recommend to the board. Dea asked what's happening with gift shop revenues and what are we doing to promote that because we have potential for a lot more revenue. DiPrince responded that we are working on procurement exemptions and spending authority. Selling seems easy, but due to state fiscal rules, we have roadblocks, which is why we are asking for exemptions. There are lots of hoops to get through and we are hopeful that there will be much improvement before the end of the calendar year. We plan to share our plan on how we can earn more revenue with our HC gift shops at the November board meeting.

P&L July 1-August 31, 2020 - Bellamy reported \$122K deficit to budget in rentals for HC and community museums as a result of the pandemic. The revenue exceeds expenditures and there is some personnel overage due to leave/separations; overall the surplus of \$7.5M is attributable to receiving the full amount of gaming and General Fund revenue.

Women's Vote Centennial Commemoration - Finlon noted that we are submitting this report to the Governor and it is important to share the implications of having worked on this. DiPrince reported that the women's commission and generous support enabled this work to happen which was launched on August 26, 2019 -- women's equality day. With History Colorado's leadership, we marked the moment by:

- 33 Women's Vote Centennial Commissioners representing the rich diversity of Colorado
- 100 Years since the 19th Amendment enfranchised women voters across the United States; Colorado women had voting rights since 1893 — more than 25 years ahead of the nation

- 200+ Collaborative organizations from across Colorado — Monte Vista to Fort Collins, Grand Junction to Sterling — organized by History Colorado to recognize the Women's Vote Centennial
- 150+ Commemorative events hosted across Colorado by Women's Vote collaborators and promoted by History Colorado
- 600 Names added to the historical record as Colorado suffrage activists
- 1300 Hours donated by 177 volunteers from across the US to crowdsource 1384 transcriptions of Colorado's women's vote documents
- 27 Nationally significant women — from Ambassador Samantha Power to Dolores Huerta — brought to Colorado audiences as part of the Bold Women. Change History. speaker series; hosted in partnership with 14 Colorado organizations — from Latino Leadership Institution and Girls, Inc. to League of Women Voters and MLK Day Commission

Meeting adjourned at 9:58am