



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes

July 22, 2020

8am – 10:30am

The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met via virtual conference on July 22, 2020. Present were directors: Cathey Finlon, Marco Abarca, Luis Benitez, Donna Lynne, Robert Musgraves, Ellen Roberts, Mary Sullivan, Stephen Sturm, Penfield Tate III, Ann Alexander Walker and Tamra Ward. Also in attendance: Steve Turner, Dawn DiPrince, Margaret Conable, Laura Dehart, Mavis Kacena, Jason Hanson, Greg Moore, Inta Morris, Rick Pederson, Cathy Rosset, Chris Tetzeli, Duane Vandebusche, Jeannie Vanderburg, William Wei, and Lynne Winchell. Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

Finlon called the meeting to order at 8:02am. Brown confirmed a quorum. Finlon thanked leadership and Walker for working diligently to maintain operations and plan for the future funding. She welcomed Benitez, Tate and Sullivan. She thanked Moore, Pederson, and Tetzeli for their service on the board. Turner shared the framed photos that we are sending our outgoing board members.

**Minutes** - Abarca motioned to approve the May 27, 2020 minutes, Walker 2nd; motion passed.

**Visitation Report** - Turner reported that our visitation numbers are down to 24%, and noted that we are on track with what we budgeted for. We are preparing for American Democracy and we know Covid will impact the number of guests in the building. However, we are confident that the exhibit will draw additional visitation.

**State Historian Report** - Hanson introduced outgoing State Historian, Wei and also introduced incoming State Historian Vandebusche. Vandebusche will assume the title on August 1 - Colorado Day. Wei provided a summary his year in review. Vandebusche shared his vision for the year ahead.

**Strategic Plan** - Turner presented the strategic plan. He noted that our focus is on building long term sustainability. Tate would like to be sure we collaborate with philanthropy fundraising and people positions to work on diversity and inclusion given the objectives.

**Diversity & Inclusion Initiative** - DiPrince presented on Diversity & Inclusion Initiative. We have experienced multiple issues in our community and around the state. We are addressing racism within our work; staff have applied our grounding virtues and are working to incorporate into our work. Abarca commented that he is so proud of the progress that has been made.

**State Register Review Appointments** - Walker presented the State Register Review Appointment recommendations. Tate motioned to approve; Sturm 2nd; motion passed.

**State Historical Fund (SHF) Grant Review** - Walker highlighted the active SHF projects. She noted that the committee reviewed 49 grants, and in order to spread funds, offered partial funding to distribute more money and offer more support. Walker noted that there won't be an October grant round due to casino revenue drops. However, there is contingency funding that the committee will consider if other grant recipients are unable to use the funds.

Walker requested board approval for the funding recommendations. Abarca motioned to approve; Ward 2nd, motion passed. Roberts abstained, she serves on Ft Lewis College; and Musgraves abstained, he serves on CO Preservation Inc.

**Financial Report** - Winchell provided a brief overview of the financials. She noted that we are starting a new fiscal year presentation. The report is where we stand this fiscal year and moving forward. 78% of revenues come from limited gaming based on last year, we have funds from last year for the new fiscal year. A 51% drop in gaming revenue will impact next fiscal year. We have had to reduce expenditures by 39% and eliminated 10 positions. We remain focused on COP relief and enterprise status.

Winchell presented period 11 financials. We are currently working within 3 fiscal years. The P&L, budget to actual for YTD ending May 31. We have a \$2.2M surplus for the year; revenues are up 2.2%; museum closures, rentals, gift shop, and earned revenue is down 22%. Winchell is working on FY21-22 budgets with divisions; also working on 4 decision items in addition to COP budget requests.

**Election of Officers** - Finlon would like to serve as chair through the November board meeting to maintain continuity; Ward is ready to move into the role and they have been working in tandem to go forward with that transition. Finlon plans to work with others to establish an advisory board structure to expand our footprint which will need executive assistance support (Brown). Roberts will be moving into the vice-chair. Walker thanked Finlon for her service. Abarca motion to approve; Walker 2nd motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15am. The next meeting is scheduled for September 23, 2020.