

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HISTORY COLORADO
January 18, 2017**

A meeting of the Colorado Historical Society (History Colorado/HC) Board of Directors was held at 8:00 am at the History Colorado Center on January 18, 2017. Present were directors Marco Abarca, Cathy Carpenter Dea, Cathey Finlon, Bob Musgraves, Rick Pederson, Ann Pritzlaff, Alan Salazar, and Tamra Ward. History Colorado staff in attendance were Steve Turner, Cynthia Nieb, and Tara Phillips. Also attending was Mavis Kacena, Volunteer Council President, and Ed Ellis, Volunteer. Attending from the Colorado Office of State Auditor were Bryan Brune, Henry Hung, Kerri Hunter, Monica Martinez, and Scott Stoner. Sherry Lestina served as recording secretary.

Bob Musgraves, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:11 am and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Auditors (Attachment A)

- The auditors reviewed the findings from the FY15 audit and concluded that all findings have been resolved.
- FY16 exit audit conference. There are 2 findings from this current audit regarding CORE and employees. These findings have been resolved. (Attachment B)
- FY17 entrance audit conference – this audit is still early in the planning.
- Musgraves asked staff to step out of the room so the board could talk with the auditors privately. After re-entering the room, Musgraves told the staff that the auditors had nothing special to report to the board and were very complimentary of the way HC staff worked with them.

Chair

- The minutes of the meeting of November 30, 2016 were approved without change. (Attachment C)
- The schedule for the Board meetings for the balance of 2017 was reviewed. Meeting dates will be adjusted, if necessary, on a month-by-month basis. Will try to hold a meeting at a Community Museum at least once a year. Would like to have the June meeting in Montrose on June 9th to coincide with the re-opening celebrations of the Ute Indian Museum. (Attachment D)

Financials (Attachments E and F)

- HC is still on track to have a breakeven year in 2016-17. Some revenues are down, but this should be more than offset by reduced expenses.
- Some of the revenue miss is due to not having received some federal funds for OAHP, so that should just be a timing issue.
- Revenues from rentals, food and liquor from KM are also down, however, and that may not be a simple timing issue. HC is looking at a lack of performance in rentals and

catering, custodial services continue to be a struggle and there is a lack of service from the front desk. HC has asked KM for a new general manager. The main contract with KM terminates June 30, 2017. Problems include a lack of cleanliness, booking an event when we have requested no bookings due to facilities maintenance, lack of responsiveness, among other items.

- Facilities and Historic Sites have a budget issue regarding security for HCC in that some security costs did not get included anywhere in the budget. Zale and Turner are looking into possible solutions. The new Security and Facilities Manager (when hired) will be tracking this budget more closely.
- Membership is currently down, likely due to the lack of significant new exhibits to draw new members. This should change as we have new exhibits opening in 2017. Development is also down, but Turner feels that this is possibly due to the timing and the way donations are entered into CORE.
- SHF variances are also due to timing of funds flowing in and out of the account.

State Historical Fund Applications

- The grant process has become more competitive and sometimes even good grant applications are not funded. The grants are also limited by the amount of funds that are available. On motion by Pritzlaff, seconded by Abarca, the Board approved the Under \$35,000 Grant Applications Recommended for Funding. Musgraves abstained from voting with respect to the grants proposed to be issued to Colorado Preservation Inc. since he is a member of its board of directors. (Attachment G)

State Register Review Board Nominations

- On motion by Ward, seconded by Abarca, the Board approved the recommended nominations to the State Register Review Board. (Attachment H)

Other Business

- State Historian – Alan Salazar and Doug Friednash met with Patty Limerick. Salazar reviewed the conversation. Discussion on this topic to be continued.
- OAHP received a grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior in the amount of \$43,158. The grant will fund a project that will nominate at least four eligible properties to the National Register, thus expanding designations throughout the National Heritage Area, each addressing an aspect of the rich Hispanic heritage of the San Luis Valley. Also, intensive field recordation, to include photography, and detailed research in order to prepare draft National Register of Historic Places nominations for at least four properties.

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the business portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Planning

The Board of Directors then moved into Planning for FY18.

- Musgraves reviewed the Standing Monthly Agenda Topics for the balance of 2017. Finlon suggested that Development report quarterly. Staff reports are to be of a strategic nature, not a report of things accomplished. (Attachment J)
- Musgraves explained the objectives for this meeting and that he would like it to be rather narrow in scope. (Attachment K)
- The Board would like to revise the Mission Statement to reflect the re-set of the new direction of HC.
- Long-Term Objectives – these are things that we always want to do. Would like to add a sixth objective that talks about the staff and the working culture. Musgraves will work with a small group of Board members to revise the mission statement and the long-term objectives.
- Turner reviewed the list of priorities. Board members added priorities and then all were grouped by level of interest. The list, grouped by year, will be distributed when complete.