

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
HISTORY COLORADO**

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2015**

A meeting of the Colorado Historical Society (History Colorado) Board of Directors was held at 8:00 am at the History Colorado Center on September 24, 2015. Present were directors Marco Abarca, Bob Musgraves, Ann Pritzlaff, Tamra Ward and Charlie Woolley. Staff attending were Ed Nichols, Ashleigh Hampf and Sherry Lestina. Jon Fero, State Attorney General's office, also attended.

The Board went into executive session pursuant to prior notice. At the conclusion of the executive session, Pritzlaff, called the public meeting to order at 8:30 am and confirmed the presence of a quorum. Ashleigh Hampf served as recording secretary.

**Consent Agenda:** Ward moved approval of the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Abarca, and carried. (Attachment A)

**Archaeology and Historic Preservation:** Turner presented the Colorado State Register Board recommendations for State Register designation. Woolley moved, seconded by Abarca, to approve the recommendations to the Colorado State Register of Historic Properties. The motion carried. (Attachment B) Turner also presented the assessment grants that had been reviewed by staff since the last Board meeting. (Attachments C, D)

**Transition Team Update:** Turner talked about the recent membership meeting with staff. One department will own the membership program with two other departments having a role. Turner said all three departments have ideas and quite a bit of energy to improve membership recruitment.

Discussion was had around the postponed annual meeting of the membership. Pritzlaff suggested the annual meeting be combined with the Bancroft and Hart Awards in February. The Board agreed with this suggestion. Woolley asked if the By-Laws require an annual meeting in November. Pritzlaff said they just require an annual meeting, but do not specify the month.

Turner discussed the plans for exhibits. He said *Toys* would be extended through January 2016. He also talked about doing some pop-up exhibits. Communications and collections departments are working on this possibility for December. There will be a social media campaign. We will invite people involved with the particular pop-up object to help unveil that exhibit. Pritzlaff said the really positive thing is that it shows we are doing exhibits that are new and exciting and using our collection. Pritzlaff asked about the budget for the exhibit. Turner responded that we would need about \$30,000 to \$40,000 to build the cases. We have some display cases that can be used, but would need to build some additional cases to fit these specific artifacts. The public relations message is that we have a great collection.

Ward asked about *Toys* extension and if there were any tie-ins with Santa or the holidays. Turner said he would provide a report with special events on the schedule and a toy drive so possibly we can have a Santa. Woolley asked who was creating these ideas. Turner responded that Alison Salutz was working on the programming in collaboration with Kelly Williams and

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
HISTORY COLORADO  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015  
Page 2

Shannon Haltiwanger. Pritzlaff asked if Turner has talked to Janet Burlile about the possibility of fundraising around the exhibits. Turner indicated that there wasn't any real fundraising possibility here just given the short timeframe.

**State Historian:** Pritzlaff said as part of looking to collaborate more, we have been discussing the appointment of the State Historian. After the early retirement of the former State Historian, the Board is considering creating a more honorary, non-employee State Historian position similar to the Colorado State Poet Laureate. Pritzlaff has talked to Dr. Patty Limerick from the Center of the American West at the University of Colorado about the possibility. Limerick would like to be involved and lend her hand in education and exhibits. It has also been discussed having a PhD candidate, Jason Hanson, housed at HC and having HC pay half his salary. With budget cuts, we couldn't pay half, so the CU Chancellor offered to pay a portion. Limerick is excited to engage her students. Pritzlaff has spoken to the Governor and Limerick has talked to the Dean, Bruce Benson, and the Chancellor at CU and all have been supportive. Abarca said we need to clarify what we expect from the State Historian. Pritzlaff stated that this will be an opportunity to get our brand tied with Limerick, who is a bit of a history celebrity. Turner said there will need to be interdepartmental discussion/agreement. Musgraves moved, Abarca seconded, a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. Patty Limerick as State Historian pending the completion of discussions and finalization of any agreement. The motion carried.

**Colorado Historical Foundation:** Ward reviewed the numerous conversations she has had in the past few weeks with various members of CHF, including HC's desire to have CHF take a larger role in HC's fundraising, the direction CHF is headed, that CHF is comfortable serving as a bank for HC, and CHF's lack of desire to take a more active development role for HC. Abarca suggested that CHF might be more interested in fundraising if it were done on a specific project basis. Musgraves suggested that HC make one more approach by sitting down with a small group from CHF and telling them the direction we are going. If fundraising is not of interest to them, we need to move on without them. Jon Fero cautioned that HC needs to move with caution because there is concern about what are and are not state funds. HC will need to have a conversation with Bob Jaros, State Controller.

**Directors Council and Agenda for 10:00 am meeting with CHF and Heritage Club:** Pritzlaff intends to announce the formation of the Directors Council to provide advice to History Colorado at the 10:00 am meeting. A list of the CHF Board of Trustees and the CHF Statement of Policy were provided to the HC Board for reference. (Attachments E, F) The vision would be to have the Directors Council composed of two advisory groups—one for Museum Operations and the other for Preservation.. The Preservation group is already in place and meets twice a year with Board and outside citizens. Woolley would be the Board representative and Chair of the Preservation group, Turner the staff rep.

The concept would be to ask Finlon to chair the Museum Operations group with Kelly Williams, JJ Rutherford, Janet Burlile, Elisa Phelps, Andy Stine, and Dawn DiPrince as staff representatives. This group could begin meeting monthly and create smaller task forces if necessary for special projects. There would be a combined meeting with the Board and the Directors Council one or more times a year.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
HISTORY COLORADO  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015  
Page 3

Woolley asked about the need to have a separate group paying attention to the Georgetown Loop. Nichols replied that it is part of museum operations and could possibly be a task force committee. Pritzlaff will draft a letter with information about the Directors Council and the two potential advisory groups. It will be emailed to everyone in the Heritage Club and the CHF board to gauge their interest.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 am.