

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HISTORY COLORADO
January 7, 2016

A meeting of the Colorado Historical Society (History Colorado/HC) Board of Directors was held at 8:00 am at the History Colorado Center (HCC) on January 7, 2016. Present were directors Marco Abarca, Cathey Finlon, Ken Lund, Robert Musgraves, Rick Pederson, Ann Pritzlaff, Chris Tetzeli, Tamra Ward and Charlie Woolley. History Colorado staff in attendance were Keith Schrum, Steve Turner and Kelly Williams. Also attending were Mavis Kacena, Volunteer Council President, and Ed Ellis, Volunteer. Sherry Lestina served as recording secretary.

Ann Pritzlaff, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:03 am and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

What's new in collections?: Keith Schrum, Senior Curator of Archives, Collections and Library, showed two of his favorite pieces. One is a book of lithographs by A. Matthews and the other is *Pike's Expeditions*. Both volumes were donations to HC. The Collections and Library Division contains approximately 13 to 14 million individual pieces.

Chair update: We are scheduling a meeting with some of the members of the Colorado Historical Foundation (CHF) to continue the discussion regarding closer collaboration between CHF and HC. The State Historian contract has been finalized and Deputy State Historian, Jason Hanson, was been working at HC since January 4th. Limerick has been appointed by President Obama to serve on the National Council on the Humanities. At the previous board meeting (12.17.15), board members talked about their ideas and hopes that will result from the partnership between the Center of the American West and HC, those thoughts are attached to these minutes (Attachment A). Limerick will also be assisting in the review of the interpretative plan that will be re-written and used for exhibit planning. Pritzlaff also reviewed the meeting that was held on January 5th with former HC board members (Attachment B). Pritzlaff reminded the board that Ed Nichols' retirement party is January 13 and hoped that everyone would attend.

Transition team update: Musgraves, Turner and Zale have been updating legislators on HC's progress on the budget. The budget will be presented to the JBC later this morning. Work is continuing on financial tracking to enable staff to track their budgets more carefully. We are still in talks with the Denver Art Museum about storage at HC's Lowry facility and about potentially sharing or collaborating on an exhibit. Progress is continuing on the exhibit development process, including idea generation, budgets and board review. It is anticipated that there will be a proposal for exhibit selection criteria, an exhibit process guide and the Colorado Sound exhibit ready for the next board meeting. Deputy State Historian, Jason Hanson, will be contacting board members, in addition to many others, in his work to develop potential exhibit themes. He will report to the board, hopefully in March. The preservation group continues to review the current round of grants, and there is an AHPC meeting next week. SHF will have the proposed grant recommendations ready to present at the next board meeting also. The Coors Western Art Show held their annual luncheon and lecture at HC. After the lecture, collection tours were available to the artists in attendance. The last unveiling of *Who Knew?* has been done.

PR and marketing report: Kelly Williams reported on advertising, marketing and attendance generated by *Toys, Who Knew?*, *Searching for Home* and the Tiny Library Concerts. (Attachment C)

Upcoming exhibit expenses: Musgraves and Turner presented three items that require additional expenses to be used for upcoming exhibits. (Attachment D) The funds will come from the 22T account. Finlon moved and Ward seconded the motion to approve the expenditure of these funds. The motion carried.

The board would like the staff to know that they feel the pop-up exhibits (*What's New?*) are very good. Maybe we can do the pop-up concept again, but on a larger scale.

Turner informed the board that our state lobbyist contract has been extended through June 30.

Directors Council: A meeting was held on January 5th to update former board members on the status of activities at HC and discuss the status of the proposed Directors Council. There is a desire to wait to see if the Foundation will agree to enlarging its own board to incorporate interested folks rather than creating another entity that will take board and staff time to manage. It was suggested that we might want to wait so that the new ED should assist in the direction of the potential Directors Council. It was decided to defer any decisions on the Directors Council until the new ED is named and we have a better sense of the direction of the Foundation.

Other business: Turner and Musgraves met with Dawn DiPrince. DiPrince would like to schedule a time for Turner, Musgraves and other staff to visit Ft. Garland and Trinidad to do some strategic planning.

It was suggested that the board consider moving to monthly meetings since we appeared to be past the critical part of the transition. No decision was made.

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