

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

January 21, 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 21, 2016. Present were directors Marco Abarca, Cathey Finlon, Ken Lund, Bob Musgraves, Ann Pritzlaff, Tamra Ward, and Charlie Woolley. History Colorado staff in attendance were Elisa Phelps and Steve Turner. Also attending was Ed Ellis, Volunteer. Sherry Lestina served as recording secretary.

Ann Pritzlaff, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Consent Agenda: The Approval of the SHF Grants over \$35,000 was removed from the consent agenda to allow further discussion of the grants and will be considered under Other Business. The remainder of the Consent Agenda was moved for approval by Woolley, and seconded by Abarca. The motion passed. (Attachment A)

Deaccession: Elisa Phelps, Director of Collections and Library Division, explained that deaccession is a process that formally removes objects from the museum collections. When an item is received, the donor signs a legal document transferring the title to that object to HC. When HC deaccessions an object, that process needs to be reversed. Deaccession is governed by Colorado statute which identifies the criteria under which items can be deaccessioned including: the item does not pertain to History Colorado's mission statement or collections policy; the item is a duplicate of other items which equally or better demonstrate an historical theme; or the item is subject to provisions within the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).

The deaccession process is as follows: 1. Written recommendation by curator; 2. Staff Collection Committee approves or rejects that recommendation; 3. Presented to BOD for their approval or rejection; 4. Approval is signed by Board Chair, HC President and Phelps. The books presented for deaccession today are either duplicates or fall outside History Colorado's mission and policy. The Native American items are unassociated funerary items and have been claimed by the Ute Tribes for repatriation and reburial. Finlon moved and Ward seconded the motion to approve all items listed on Attachment B be deaccessioned. The motion passed. Finlon asked if HC has a formal deaccession policy. Phelps replied that we do, however, it needs to be updated and will be provided to the board as soon as the revisions have been completed. The Collections Policy is reviewed every five years. Phelps will also provide some numbers about how many items are received on a yearly basis. Most of the items received are donated to HC; very few are by targeted acquisitions.

State and National Register Report: Woolley moved and Abarca seconded the motion to approve the additions to the State and National Register, the motion passed. (Attachment C)

Financial Update: Musgraves stated that financial tracking is on schedule; however, he did not have any reports to share at this time.

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Other Business: SHF grants over \$35,000. Pritzlaff reviewed the grant process. A question was asked about the Rocky Mountain PBS grant. This is considered a grant for education and is within the scope of permissible grants. All funds provided to SHF are granted every year. It was recommended that these grants be publicized, especially with the Governor and Legislators. Also, is there an area within HC that activities associated with these grants could be displayed? Finlon moved and Abarca seconded the motion to approve the SHF grants over \$35,000. The motion passed. Woolley abstained from voting on any grants that include the Denver Botanic Gardens and Musgraves abstained from voting on any grants that include Colorado Preservation, Inc. (Attachment D)

There were two articles in the Denver Post on January 17th. (Attachment E). Musgraves and Turner met with Limerick, Hanson and Gutjahr to discuss roles and operations. Hanson will be working on updating HC's interpretative plan by asking other museums across the country for their interpretative plan to possibly integrate some outside ideas. He will also be collecting ideas for exhibits. Conversation is ongoing with the Denver Art Museum about a collaborative exhibit in HC's 4th floor gallery. This could potentially bring in an audience that is not normally at HC and will also give HC time to plan for the next exhibit. Abarca said that the Kirkland Museum may also be interested in collaborating.

Musgraves and Turner have been talking with David Tryba (HC architect) about the building and possibly some changes to the atrium. Tryba will provide a series of next steps if it is decided to act on these changes.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 am.