



History Colorado  
Board of Directors Meeting  
May 2, 2018  
Minutes

The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met on May 2, 2018, at 8:00am, at History Colorado Center (Denver). Present were directors Cathy Carpenter Dea, Cathey Finlon, Bob Musgraves, Rick Pederson, Ann Pritzlaff, Alan Salazar, Chris Tetzeli, and Tamra Ward. History Colorado staff in attendance were Steve Turner, Kathi Grummel, Jason Hanson, Shannon Haltiwanger, Elisa Phelps, Jim Parone and Michelle Zale. Also attending was Volunteer Council President Judy Durzo. Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

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

Chair:

- The minutes of the March 28, 2018 meeting were approved without change.
- Legislation update – HB1360 legislation to increase the board size is expected to pass, so members should begin thinking about potential candidates to fill 4 slots. These new appointments will go into effect in November.
- State Historian Council – the Board asked Steve and Jason to come back with a revised plan and they will address this one shortly.
- We will continue to explore the possibility of HC’s separating from State OIT over the next couple of months. There is a specific process to work through to be exempt from OIT.
- Ann – HB1190, the historic preservation tax credit reauthorization, is moving along. Program changes will increase efficiency and reduce costs of program administration.

State Historian – Jason Hanson presented a draft model for the new historians council. This model recommends 5 members. The Board would appoint the first Council Chair and thereafter, the Council will appoint the Chair. Special consideration will be given to higher education backgrounds and academic degrees. In addition, the Board will ensure the Council represents the geographic and cultural diversity of the state. The position will be honorary and HCC will provide reasonable travel reimbursement and make HCC available for Council business. Terms will be staggered 2 year terms. Pritzlaff thinks that the Board should plan to meet with potential Council Members after the group is created to get their input on future activities, etc. Carpenter Dea has been working with RMPBS and indicated that Julie Speer, the producer of Colorado Experience, is eager to work with the new State Historian(s) in whatever format we adopt. Turner then ran through the list of people being proposed for consideration. Pritzlaff, reminding the group of the effort to cultivate closer ties with CSU, urged that the Board consider somebody from CSU for this Council. Salazar urged that the Board consider adding a Latin American or Native American expert to this first Council. Finlon thinks it’s a great group but also sees the need for Latin American representation on this first Council. Turner asked the Board to bless the proposed framework and Hanson and Turner will send a new slate of names which will include Hispanic representation.

Turner recommends that Tom Noel serve as the first Council Chair. Hanson will provide staff support for the History Council. Finlon recommends that we consider having the Council select their own Chair and new members. Turner will modify the document to reflect that the Council will select the Chair and new members, subject to Board approval. Carpenter Dea moved to approve creating the State Historian Council as outlined by Turner and Hanson. Pritzlaff seconded the motion. Musgraves asked to amend the motion to provide that Hanson (or his successor) be named Deputy State Historian with responsibility for coordinating the activities of the Council. Motion passed. Finlon wants to market this and do some special events for this. Musgraves asked that Kelly Williams and Cathey Finlon work together on marketing and PR around the new Council. Salazar volunteered to coordinate advising the Governor's Office and the current State Historian of the proposed changes.

Financial report – Jim Parone reviewed the FY18-19 operating budget in detail, reporting that we have a proposed balanced budget of \$17.236M. Ward and Pritzlaff commended the staff on the new presentation format, as it more clearly shows the trends over time. Finlon asked about the impact of the future increase in COP payments. Turner noted that the original projections done at the time of financing were based on what has proven to be an unrealistic annual growth rate assumption for the gaming fund of 6%. In 2010, Amendment 50 shifted how gaming funds were allocated between historic preservation and the community colleges and effectively capped historic preservation growth at 3.5% per year, making the 6% projection unattainable. That will make the increased COP payments a real challenge. Turner noted that he is planning to meet with OSPB in the near future to discuss the situation and begin exploring potential options. Ward asked how the ongoing PERA discussions in the legislature might impact the proposed budget. Michelle Zale replied that they are not expected to impact our budget request. Ward moved to approve the proposed budget as presented; Salazar seconded the motion. Motion passed. Finlon suggested that although it was not included in the budget, we consider creating and separately funding a new major gifts position in Philanthropy. Musgraves asked that Turner and Grummel prepare a proposal for the Board to review at its next meeting.

22T Fund Request –Turner asked for capital development funds from 22T in order to pay for the construction costs associated with the creation of Camp Colorado in the lower level of the History Colorado Center. He described the plans for the themed space for kids and private event space. While the request was originally intended to be only \$50,000, the construction bids are coming in higher than anticipated and he needs to ask for \$70,000 instead. Ward moved to approve spending up to \$70,000 from Fund 22T to pay for the construction of Camp Colorado as proposed; Finlon seconded, motion passed.

Carpenter Dea asked if we see the changes being proposed to the lower level as permanent. Turner replied yes. Although we cannot utilize all the space right now because of DAM storage, when those objects are moved out, we will be able to utilize the entire space. Carpenter Dea asked about space for the possible Colorado Sound exhibit or collaboration with the Colorado Music Hall of Fame that had been discussed previously. Turner noted that staff was seeing the potential Colorado Sound exhibit as a bigger challenge than anticipated and finding it less compelling as an exhibit. Carpenter Dea feels strongly that Colorado Sound is something we should consider and that we should also be trying to do something with the Hall of Fame. Turner noted that we have waited 2 years for some sort of proposal from the Hall of Fame and haven't received anything and we haven't been able to generate any philanthropic support for Colorado Sound. Finlon asked what has changed from earlier thinking? Turner indicated that he had seen other music space at other museums not being utilized and very few attendees at several music-related museums he recently visited. Carpenter Dea asked that Staff make another effort with the Hall of Fame and give them a limited period to respond before we might pull the

plug on a possible venture with them. Tetzeli pledges to work hard on this effort/request. Musgraves suggests that instead of waiting for them to do something, we craft a collaborative proposal that would be acceptable to History Colorado and send that to the Hall of Fame for consideration and response. The Board agreed with the suggestion.

Monthly Financials—Zale reviewed the financials for period 9 (March). Not much change, but Philanthropy has increased revenue and the deficit is going down. Staff will continue to monitor the deficit to make sure it is being reduced as expected. With regard to the Federal revenue, we are still awaiting receipt of the OAHP grant. The numbers will change pretty dramatically once we receive those funds. Abarca asked if we have any numbers for the new Play Ball exhibit. Turner replied that weekend attendance has doubled over the same time last year.

Georgetown Loop – Mark Graybill provided background and update to the Board on the Georgetown Loop Railroad (GTL). He thanked the HC staff and Board for their continuing support over the years. GTL has increased ridership 2009 through 2017 and the revenue has gone up 2.5 times in that period. GTL has had over one million riders since 2009. They are sold out from the end of June thru mid-August. The Santa rides sell out every year. Turner offered to schedule a Board tour to GTL, perhaps the fall meeting and include the new Historians Council. Grummel stated that Membership is working closely with GTL to promote membership at HCC with a GTL ticket purchase.

Philanthropy—Grummel reviewed the Philanthropy dashboard and gave an overview of activity and successes. She also passed out customizable Philanthropy packets that reflect various ways people can contribute money to support HCC. Pritzlaff requested that preservation be included as an area of focus in the brochure. Grummel passed out prospective donor lists and would like the Board to help identify who they know and if they can help enlarge our circle of influence. She clarified that she would not move forward on any particular prospective donor without working through the associated Board member.

Youth Advisory Council – Emma Davis, a volunteer on the Youth Advisory Council, provided an overview of the Council's mission and goals. The Council is trying to increase youth involvement in History Colorado and build interest and outreach for teens statewide.

Owens/Hickenlooper Gallery--Ryan Heckman with Quarterly Forum presented to the Board an idea to fund the proposed Society to Match the Scenery exhibit with a special naming opportunity. He wants to name the gallery after Governors Owens & Hickenlooper. Heckman believes that Colorado can be a role model for other states in terms of building the state through community leadership and would like to see that leadership showcased in the gallery. In total, Heckman is offering to donate a total of \$835,000 (\$535,000 as exhibit support and \$250,000 for the naming rights to the gallery). The two Governors are supportive. Turner shared that this new exhibit is set to open fall of 2019 and if the Board approves, we can make this happen quickly. Musgraves thanked Heckman for presenting his concept and his proposed support of the organization.

Turner asked the Board if they needed any additional information regarding Heckman's proposal while he was present. Concern was expressed by several that we not appear to be moving away from our mission to represent and tell the story of all of Coloradans in favor of just those who have been financially successful. All agreed that we need to be very mindful of this balance. Pritzlaff moved to approve the naming of the Owens-Hickenlooper Gallery, subject to being able to understand what the exhibit looks like; Ward seconded the motion. Finlon asked about the duration of naming rights. Turner

indicates this is an area where he feels he needs to get some clarity from the board and would like to have the Board develop and approve a naming rights policy, but to this point he has only discussed perpetual naming rights. Motion passed.

Deaccessions – Phelps provided an overview of a number of items to proposed to be deaccessioned from the museum’s collection. Abarca moved to approve the proposed deaccessioning; Ward seconded, motion passed.

Advisory Council – Turner outlined the past discussions and his current thinking on the proposed Advisory Council. He sees this council helping to work on the HCC strategic planning process. They will be asked to meet 3-4 times throughout the year to provide different perspectives on the plan. He noted that he had approached Club 20, Progressive 15 and Action 22 to get additional names for diverse representation. Abarca moved to approve the concept of the council and the proposed list of members. Ward seconded, motion passed.

There being no other business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.