



**History Colorado  
Board of Directors Meeting  
November 28, 2018  
Minutes**

The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met on November 28, 2018, at 8:00am, at History Colorado Center (Denver). Present were directors Marco Abarca, Cathey Finlon, Donna Lynne, Bob Musgraves, Rick Pederson, Ellen Roberts, Alan Salazar, Stephen Sturm, Ann Walker, and Al Yates. History Colorado staff in attendance were Steve Turner, Kathi Grummel, Shannon Haltiwanger, Anna Mascorella, Tim Stroh and Michelle Zale. Also attending was Volunteer Council President Judy Durzo and volunteers Mavis Kacena, Margaret Conable, and Ed Ellis, and Youth Advisory Council President Emma Davis. Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

Ms. Finlon called the meeting to order at 8:07am. She thanked Mr. Musgraves and Ms. Walker for their leadership and welcomed the new Board members. Under Musgrave’s and Walker’s leadership History Colorado has moved to a sustainable operation. Our finances are transparent, and we are working to rebuild staff capabilities; and with 13 board members, we are ready for the next stage. She noted that 2019 is our 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary! Our attendance continues to increase; and Dan Ritchie is leading us through our strategic planning process.

Introductions were made and each Board member stated why they wanted to serve:

- Donna – stated that in her role with Higher Education she became familiar with History Colorado and she is a history buff. She would like to continue to work on strategic planning.
- Al – served as President of CSU and Chancellor of the System, for 13 years. He retired in 2003, but continues to do a variety of things. He wanted to give something back and the Governor asked him to serve. Al believes it is important to understand the past as we project into the future.
- Ann – is known in the historic preservation field as the cheerleader for historic places. She is passionate about history as it provides a perspective on who we are and where we should be going.
- Stephen – is a DU graduate history major. He spent many hours in History Colorado’s library working on his thesis. He appreciates how Colorado is an example of trends and interesting facts, and he loves history.
- Bob – is an attorney and business executive. He has served on the History Colorado Board since 2014 and is involved with preservation organizations connecting to history.
- Steve – is an architect by training and served as the director of State Historic Fund Grant Program prior to becoming the Executive Director. His personal ethos is ‘we are here to make this place better.’ The public sector provides that opportunity to move forward.
- Cathey – loves museums, experience and space, as well as authentic objects that interpret the past. She loves Colorado and the Governor also asked her to serve.
- Dan – is Chancellor Emeritus of the University of Denver. Today he serves as President of the Buell Foundation which focuses on early childhood. He created Building a Better Colorado which focuses on non-partisan constitutional changes. He is committed to doing what he can to serve Colorado.

- Marco – is a history geek. He loves to read and during his travels, he visits history museums. He had the good fortune to serve on the previous Board and is proud to serve on this new Board. He is a native and wants to work to make things better.
- Ellen – is a former legislator and lives outside Durango. She visited museums with her grandparents and learned to appreciate history. Living in Southwestern Colorado, she touches history all the time. She serves on the Fort Lewis College Board and was asked to serve on the History Colorado Board. Ellen is passionate about history and hopes to serve as a resource for rural, remote regions.
- Tamra – is thrilled with the complement of the added Board members. She served on the previous Board and brought her political positioning and expertise. Her company handles public affairs and issue policies, for business and government. She appreciates how it intersects to tell a story through history. Our past informs our future.
- Rick – hails from the investment world. The Governor asked him to serve in 2014 to bring his financial background to help with a turnaround. Along the way he was struck by what this institution is and what it can be. He believes that we have a challenge of teaching history to make it entertaining and engage young people. He's passionate about Colorado and happy to be working with everybody.
- Alan – is a fifth generation Coloradan and was born in Leadville. He loves history and plans his vacations around history. His study of history is what motivated him to pursue a career in politics. He worked for 2 Governors, 3 Senators and 1 Mayor. Serving on the History Colorado Board has been a labor of love.

**Bylaws** - Finlon noted the Bylaws had a change in wording and term limits were added. Musgraves motioned to approve; Tamra seconded, motion passed.

**Minutes** – Abarca motioned to approve the November 28, 2018 minutes; Ann seconded, motion passed.

**Conflict of Interest Forms** - The annual conflict of interest forms need to be completed and signed. Finlon requested all Board members complete the forms and return to Dianne before the next Board meeting.

**Looking Forward Presentation** - Turner reviewed his presentation Looking forward to 2019, and introduced Anna Mascorelli, the new Temple Buell Associate Curator of Architecture.

**Strategic Planning** - Mr. Ritchie provided an overview and update on the Strategic Planning Process which he is helping to spearhead. He touched on each of the strategic plan themes. The process will yield a new big vision. He hopes to complete the process by mid-summer 2019. Ritchie believes we can be a major player and be successful like SCFD institutions in spite of History Colorado not receiving those funds. He would like to do more outreach through schools and identify better communication modes.

**Philanthropy Update** - Grummel presented the Philanthropy update and noted that Membership is on track. Philanthropy has partnered with the Georgetown Loop to offer membership at History Colorado. In addition, Philanthropy is talking to donors on ways to name History Colorado in estate plans. She also touched on *Colorado!* - a unique group of powerful people that love history. There are 2-3 events each year with renowned speakers. *Colorado!* membership has raised \$152,000 to help fund programs and exhibits. Collectively, \$1.7M has been raised or donated. Finlon complimented the slide show which reflects where we were, are and where we are going. The goal is to have 12 new members by June 30 is to have 12 new *Colorado!* members.

**History Colorado Board Meetings** - Finlon believes meeting six times per year works well, but would like to poll the Board to confirm the day and duration that works best -- 8:00-10:30am was mentioned.

**Service Enterprise Initiative** – Judy Durzo presented the Service Enterprise Initiative which took 18 months and \$5,800 for training to achieve. The purpose was to find ways to expand volunteer assignments which could encompass projects or shifts. Emily Dobish noted that the focus has been on the Denver area and is leading into the community museums in the future. Mavis Kacena noted that History Colorado was the 9<sup>th</sup> organization in the state to be certified. Margaret Conable discussed future plans and confirmed that the guiding coalition continues to meet. The Board formally recognized them for their efforts and thanked Dobish and the Volunteer Council.

**Youth Advisory Council Update** – Emma Davis presented an update on the Youth Advisory Council. She gave a brief overview of who they are and what they do. There are 21 members and in February 2019 they will host a Guest Speaker series. In addition, the council is collaborating on opportunities for its two members in Durango. The Council plans to create a page on the History Colorado website. There will be a teen night in late 2019; a national history kickoff event; as well as a career fair to learn about museum curation, preservation and archaeology. Musgraves asked how the council is measuring successes. Davis stated the council is working on that.

**State Historic Fund Grants** – Ann Walker reported that the Archaeology Historic Preservation Committee met to review the repeal process on state tax credits. In January, the committee will meet again to review mini grants and will come forward with those grants for Board approval. The materials in the packet are for informational purposes. She noted to the new members, that any declined State Historic Grant applications have the opportunity to be re-worked so their grant application can have a better opportunity to receive funding.

**Financial Report** – Michelle Zale presented period 3 expenditures which are the same as 2018 at this time. She feels confident that we will stay on track.

**State Auditor's Report** – Monica Power Audit Manager and auditors Brian Brune and Carrie Hunter, handed out the 2018 audit and touched on the 2019 audit process. Power reported that there were no audit findings or recommendations for 2018. They plan to develop the 2019 audit plan and begin work in April. In July, they will test account balances and complete internal control test work.

Finlon requested that the Board go into Executive session with the Auditors. Staff were excused from the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:23am.