The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met on January 23, 2019 at 8:00am, at History Colorado Center (Denver). Present were directors Marco Abarca, Cathy Carpenter Dea, Cathey Finlon, Rick Pederson, Ellen Roberts, Alan Salazar, Stephen Sturm, Chris Tetzeli, Ann Walker and Tamra Ward. Board members Bob Musgraves and Donna Lynne joined by conference line. History Colorado staff in attendance were Steve Turner, Tonya Covarrubias, Kathi Grummel, Shannon Haltiwanger, Jason Hanson, Holly Norton, Mark Rodman, Tim Stroh, Kelly Williams and Michelle Zale. Also attending were Volunteer Council Members Margaret Conable, Mavis Kacena and Ed Ellis. Guests in attendance included Tara Keats, Jen Lester, and Marshall Fogel. Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

Cathey Finlon, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05am and confirmed a quorum. She noted the success of the Written on the Land opening with participation by the tribes. She announced that History Colorado will provide program leadership and support for the Colorado Women’s Vote Centennial Commission. The Board thanked Donna Lynne for leadership of the initiative and her donation of $5,000 towards the program. Lynne shared that a transfer of $50,000 in Colorado State Community Partnership funds has been provided to History Colorado to support the program.

Strategic Planning Committee - Finlon provided an update on Strategic Planning. She noted the first meeting of the committee meeting is Feb. 21 and focus areas have been identified.

Minutes - November 28, 2018 minutes were approved.

Budget - Turner reviewed the budget and stated that we have $7M in our various reserve funds and submitted a Decision Item for $600,000 for additional state support to History Colorado every year. Turner requested spending authority of $750,000 to enhance the student entrance, add a recording studio and improve Camp Colorado. Finlon motioned to approve spending up to $750,000 in 22T funds. Abarca seconded; motion passed.

Preservation - Walker reported that the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Committee met, and is recommending the History Colorado Board approve the rules for implementation of the residential tax credit. In addition, the History Colorado Board needs to approve the recommended State Historic Fund Grants and State Register recommendations. Walker and Musgraves abstained from voting on the State Historic Fund Grants & State Register recommendations, due to conflict of interests. Salazar moved to approve all requests; Ward seconded; motion passed.
Communications – Williams presented the Communications Strategy and Initiatives. The Board was supportive of the direction and looks forward to the implementation of the plan.

State Historic Fund Presentation - Stroh presented four preservation projects noting their significance, diversity of location and funding types along with partnerships. He stated that the Board has approved $307M in grants with a total of 4,625 grants being awarded. This program has a huge economic impact on 64 counties. The Board appreciated hearing this presentation.

Financial Report - Zale reviewed the November report. Expenses and revenue are on track; visitation at History Colorado Center has improved; community museums are on track to earn over $1M again; membership and Georgetown Loop ridership increased. Finlon thanked her for her work and stated that it would be helpful to have a small finance committee that could help review things and provide more discipline from the Board. She also noted that Ward will chair the next meeting and we will develop a charter for the finance committee.

Marshall Fogel - Finlon expressed appreciation for Mr. Fogel’s partnership and help with baseball. She presented a resolution to him for his baseball collection to create the Play Ball! Exhibit; Fogel thanked the History Colorado Board members and staff. He stated that under Turner’s leadership, Fogel gained mutual trust and respect which enabled him to showcase much more of his large collection.

There being no other regular business, Finlon requested board move into executive session with the Attorney General staff at 9:42am. Staff and guests were excused from this session.