



HISTORY *Colorado*

History Colorado
Board of Directors Meeting
November 20, 2019
Minutes

The Board of Directors of History Colorado (a/k/a The Colorado Historical Society) (“HC”) met on November 20, 2019. Present were directors: Cathey Finlon, Marco Abarca, Cathy Carpenter Dea, Bob Musgraves, Stephen Sturm, Tamra Ward, Rick Pederson, and Ann Walker. Online were: Donna Lynne and Ellen Roberts. Also in attendance: Steve Turner, Dawn DiPrince, Tonya Covarrubias, Margaret Conable, Mark Graybill, Kathi Grummel, Shannon Haltiwanger, Jason Hanson, Inta Morris, Cathy Rosset, Jeannie Vanderburg, Lynne Winchell and Dianne Brown served as recording secretary.

Finlon called the meeting to order at 8:08am and confirmed a quorum. The board approved minutes from July 17, 2019 and September 25, 2019. She thanked board members for being so attentive to supporting the growth of this organization and for protecting it. She added that members of the strategic planning process added another layer of leadership. Finlon mentioned this because of the Certificate of Participation process and its impact puts us in a fragile position. The work has given us strength to message legislators, Higher Ed and others about the great programmatic things we have accomplished.

Executive Director Report - Turner introduced Lynne Winchell, the new Chief Administrative Officer. She will start on December 10. She has a wealth of expertise in state and school systems. She will oversee many divisions.

Strategic Plan - In January, we will present updates to the strategic plan. We are focusing on the percentage of growth, timelines and costs so we can provide details on how we are collecting data.

22T Memo Update - The student entrance enhancement to add a fence on the south side of the building is on hold until the facilities manager is hired. Turner would like to use some of these funds to construct office cubes to accommodate new hires. The board approved using as needed for cubes. The funds need to be spent by June 30.

Decision Item Request - The Governor’s office has included a request for \$1M/per year in his budget to support our Certificate of Participation. Vanderburg noted that there has been lots of work over the summer to construct a message for the Governor’s office. In addition, leadership spent time on the Cumbres train with Joint Budget Committee members and held a lunch at History Colorado for the Joint Budget Committee which allowed time to build relationships before the ask. Vanderburg notes that she has received positive feedback from the JBC thus far; they want to help find a solution. At this time, we do not know what the solution will be.

Musgraves asked how we sit with the JBC staff. Vanderburg replied that a meeting has been scheduled with JBC staff to address some of their concerns; we are open to ideas and suggestions on how to get funds. It was also noted that Dr. Angie Paccione has been a huge influence to get us on the list for funding.

Turner noted that January 15 at 1:30 is our JBC hearing. Finlon will be presenting and would like as many board members present as possible.

State Preservation Plan - Walker noted that the plan is updated every 10 years. They're working to ensure that it serves the state and preservation efforts. Walker is the chair and Vanderburg is co chair. They are conducting 20 meetings across the state by the end of December. The plan is following 4 pillars (education, celebration, engagement, and connection). They will share the first draft with the History Colorado board and then to Park Service before final HC review and approval.

Archaeology Historic Preservation Committee (AHPC) - Walker would like to appoint Barb Pahl to the AHPC. The Committee is the official body for tax appeals. She asked the board and staff to consider other roles for Pahl in the future. Abarca moved to approve the appointment, Ward seconded, motion passed.

Deaccessions - Hanson noted some recent acquisitions: Governor Polis' blue tennis shoes, oral history Bill Falkenberg piece; and John Henderson collection. We have 44 items for deaccession. Musgraves moved to approve, Sturm seconded, motion passed.

Finance - Covarrubias reported on finance Period 3. This is the first P&L automated; kudos to Thayrine Rodrigues. The automation allows the finance team to have prior year data to pull in going forward with budget year-to-date projections based on each month. Pederson would like the graphs added back in. Musgraves thinks the finance committee should discuss which graphs to include. The notes will be included the first few times, and scaled down going forward. Covarrubias worked on the budget for the first time this year. We now have staff support to develop the budget from the ground up and Winchell can work on that in the near future.

Georgetown Loop - Graybill shared his team's disappointment that the HC board couldn't come to Georgetown as planned because of weather. It really means a lot to them for the board to visit and he hopes the board will reschedule a trip. Graybill was honored to be a part of the suffrage exhibit that went around; over 5K saw it. He would like to do it again in the future. Overall, it has been a good year even with the strange weather. They are up 6% for the year; operationally the GLTR has improved significantly. They purchased a locomotive that does not burn coal in the steam engine - instead it burns recycled motor oil, mixed with corn oil. They will continue to be greener. GLTR budgeted for 194K riders, and they will be very close to that number. They sold 440 memberships. He noted that while History Colorado receives the benefit of those memberships, GLTR loses because the membership allows one free train ride. Grummel thanked Graybill for those memberships.

Musgraves stated that it would be great to have an update on the State Historian Council and would like to invite them in for updates. Dea invited DiPrince and team to meet in Gunnison for preparation for Duane Vandenbusche's role on Aug. 1.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05am.