

ALBUQUERQUE MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
Held at the Albuquerque Museum Conference Room
2000 Mountain Road NW

11 December, 2019

Present: BOT members:

Pamela Weese Powell, Chair
Judith Suiter
Beverly Bendicksen
Helen Atkins
Alan Weitzel
Hal Behl

CABQ STAFF:

Andrew Connors, Museum Director
Josie Lopez, Curator of Art
Elizabeth Becker, Curator of Education
Denise Crouse, Communications Manager
Cynthia Garcia, Assistant Director

aM FOUNDATION:

Marney Hupper, Board of Directors President
Emily Blaugrund Fox (aMF Executive Director)

Absent: Joni Palmer (BOT); Wayne Chew (BOT)

Meeting called to order

Chairperson Pamela Weese Powell called the meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Beverly moved to approve the October 9th meeting minutes, Alan seconded.
The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson's Report – Pamela Weese Powell

Pamela began with reporting on the BOT positions that are at the end of their terms. She contacted each member whose term was coming to an end prior to the meeting. BOT members Pamela, Helen, Judith, and Joni have all agreed they would like to serve for another term. Hal also expressed the same interest, but there was a question whether he would be able to as per the By-Laws. After clarification from members of the board it was established that he is able to serve another term.

Reported on the progress of the Capital Campaign for the Education Center, which is still in its “silent phase.” She expressed the importance of having 100% BOT participation and commitment, stating that she would contact members individually after the meeting to work on this.

Beverly asked if there was a “one sheet” that the board could have access to referencing talking points on the Campaign. Emily confirmed that she has a document like this and would be emailing it to the board.

The city has hired a lobbyist who will be working on behalf of several institutions under the Arts and Cultural District. Part of their effort will include an ask on the Museum's behalf for funds to hire an architect for the new Education Center.

Vice Chairperson's Report – Beverly Bendicksen

Beverly presented a summary of the AMF audited financials for FY 2019 and discussed the various categories of Museum support in the current AMF operating budget.

Museum Director's Report—Andrew Connors

- Thanked Beverly for breakdown of the audit and budget.
- Jim Henson Exhibit opened last weekend- reported on its successes and praise.
- Acknowledged Elizabeth's work in regards to opening weekend programing.
- Reported on the soft opening for part one of "Let the Sunshine In." Part two opens by the 21st of December.
- Opening next: Art exhibit curated by Titus O'Brien with work from the Museum archives.
- spoke to the ongoing struggles with central security office regarding scheduling issues with security officers.
- Curator of History position closed last Thursday. They are scheduling interviews, hoping to get an extension for this process so interviews can take place after the holidays.
- Reported on other open positions- Accountant & Technical Manager are currently vacant and the Tour Scheduler at Casa San Isidro is becoming vacant.
- The temp positions of Assistant History Curator and Site Manager are going to take their three month leave soon.
- Reported on the Manager/Supervisor position as a response to the parking lot issue with a former employee.

Curator Reports

Josie Lopez, Curator of Art

- Reported on the Acquisitions meeting.
- Reported on upcoming exhibitions like "Dreams Unreal"
- Mentioned that exhibition calendar is built out through 2023
- Next visiting artist Nicola Lopez.
- The visiting artist program has received another 5 years of funding
- Expressed gratitude for Andrew, Emily and Cindy and the Museum staff for their work prior to her becoming the Curator of Art and ongoing.

Elizabeth Becker, Curator of Education

- Reported further on the opening weekend of the Jim Henson exhibit, noting that its draw to families is promoting awareness for the Museums other programs.
- Mentioned the Magic Bus tours that are scheduled for the year, the bulk of which are during the Henson exhibit. 183 tours scheduled for 2020, 110 are for the Henson exhibit
- Last week the "Arts Matters" program for at risk youth opened.

Other Reports

Marney Hupper, Board of Directors President

- Foundation Board approved the capital campaign for the Education Center with a \$1.4 million commitment; Ann Conway has been hired as a lobbyist to help raise public funds for the Education Center.
- There are open spots on the board- requested the BOT make suggestions to her or Emily for potential board members who would be excited to give and/or work on the Education Center campaign.
- Bringing back the Long Range and Strategic Planning Committees

Denise Crouse, Communications Manager

- Provided a list of recent media coverage with the meeting agenda

- Explained ways in which she uses budgeted money but spoke to the importance of earned media, with the example of the recent front page coverage from the Journal of “Let the Sunshine in”

Meeting Adjourned @ 1:09 pm by Pamela