

**Albuquerque Museum Board of Trustees Meeting**  
City of Albuquerque Cultural Services

Wednesday, December 9, 2020 11:30am  
Via Zoom Videoconference

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**Board Members Present**

Beverly R. Bendicksen, Chair  
Helen Atkins, Secretary/Treasurer  
Judith N. Suiter  
Sherri Burr  
Joni Pierce

Alan F. Weitzel, Vice Chair  
Pamela Weese Powell  
Wayne G. Chew  
Paul M. Mondragon

**Albuquerque Museum Staff Present**

Andrew Connors, Associate Director  
Josie Lopez, Art Curator  
Elizabeth Becker, Education Curator

Cynthia Garcia, Assistant Director  
Leslie Kim, History Curator  
Julie Valdez, Administrative Assistant

Dr. Shelle Sanchez, Director Cultural Services  
Hakim Bellamy, Deputy Director Cultural Services  
Mayor Tim Keller  
Helen Maestas, City of Albuquerque  
Denise Crouse, aMF Communications Manager

**Request to Record**

Request to record meeting was made by Julie Valdez.  
Request approved unanimously.

**I Call to Order**

The Board Meeting was called to order by Beverly Bendicksen at 11:35am.

**Mayor Keller Addresses the aM BOT**

Thank you for your service. This is a volunteer Board and you have continued to operate amongst the many challenges of 2020. Compliments to the Chair as we go into next year for compliance with the Open Meetings Act, going over bylaws and policies, understanding jurisdiction and setting up future Boards for success.

**II Approval of October 14, 2020 Minutes**

A motion to approve the October 14, 2020, meeting minutes was made by Sherri Burr, Helen Atkins provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.

**Approval of October 30, 2020 Minutes**

A motion to approve the October 30, 2020, meeting minutes was made by Judith N. Suiter, Paul Mondragon provided a second. Sherri Burr abstained. All other Trustees approved the motion.

### **III Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **IV Board Handbooks and Orientation Process**

Beverly Bendicksen:

- Digital versions of the Board of Trustee (BOT) Handbook were received by the Trustees on Friday, December 4, 2020; hard copies are available upon request.
- New Trustees Orientation:
  - Sherri and Paul to meet with Andrew and Beverly to discuss handbook topics and the orientation process
  - Orientation will include a “Behind the Scenes” tour with Andrew to learn more about how the Museum operates

### **V Update of Section 3.6 of Board of Trustees Policies**

Beverly Bendicksen:

- The proposed changes are to clarify and update the responsibilities of these committees, define terms and institute term limits
- Proposed 3 year terms for new members and shorter terms for existing members in order to stagger member changes. Committees will consist of 9 Members:
  - One Foundation recommended Member
  - At least two Trustee Members
  - Remainder are Community Members
- A motion to approve the marked changes to section 3.6 was made by Sherri Burr, Joni Pierce provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.
- Josie Lopez presented the recommended appointments to the Art Advisory Committee and discussed the new proposed members:
  - Ray Dewey – Owned Art Gallery in Santa Fe, is a supporter of art organizations in Albuquerque, has vast knowledge of art and the general sense of how art organizations serve diverse communities in Albuquerque and Santa Fe.
  - Jacob Sisneros – Albuquerque artist, splits his time between Albuquerque and Santa Fe. Participated in the Memorial at the National Hispanic Cultural Center as part of an art team. Attended RISD, has great general knowledge of Art History and is an active artist
  - Helen Atkins – BOT Member, Albuquerque artist, teaches in the Art and Art History Department at UNM
- A motion to approve the recommended appointments to the Art Advisory Committee was made by Sherri Burr, Alan F. Weitzel provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.
- Leslie Kim presented the recommended appointments to the History Advisory Committee and discussed the new proposed members:
  - Juan Abeyta– Community Organizer, very involved in Education and Environmental and Chicano Movements
  - Teri Reynoso – Archivist and Librarian, very familiar with the materials we will be considering as History Acquisitions
- A motion to approve the recommended appointments to the History Advisory Committee was made by Helen Atkins, Paul Mondragon provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.

### **VI Update on La Jornada Monument**

- Beverly Bendicksen:

- The BOT Letter of Recommendation went to the Arts Board and was also read into their minutes at their October 31, 2020, meeting.
- Arts Board voted to support public process recommendations that came from the Race, History and Healing Project and the Community Solutions Table.
- Mayor Keller sent an Executive Communication to City Council in November 2020 asking them to accept the recommendations as presented.
- Dr. Shelle Sanchez and Hakim Bellamy:
  - The Executive Communication initiated by Mayor Keller that went to City Council via the City of Albuquerque Cultural Services Department requests that the Arts Board be allowed to begin the decommissioning process to then provide City Council with a menu of options to act on.
  - City Council voted to note receipt of the recommendations, but took no action.

## **VII Museum Director Report**

Andrew Connors:

- Much of the Museum's current accomplishments have been digital accomplishments and digital acquisitions for the Museum
- The Albuquerque Museum's updated website went live this week in a much more standardized museum format
- The Albuquerque Museum will re-open with COVID safe practices in place per the Governor's guidelines
- Elizabeth Becker has been working with APS to find ways to move forward with a digital/virtual presentation of the "Focus on Youth" project"
- The Foundation provided a request for proposal from the TOMA Foundation which Jill Hartke is currently working on. The proposal is due in January 2021. This will be the springboard to reconceptualize our entire digital presence which will be available to our local and international audiences.
- Cindy Garcia continues to work on capital projects.
- Hakim Bellamy offered his time to create a very well done and engaging virtual tour of the "30 Americans" exhibit which included a short conversation by Mayor Keller and Josie Lopez.

## **VIII Curator of History Report**

Leslie Kim:

- Leslie shared a digital presentation of "Seven Generations" depicting Indigenous Activism in NM. This is an online exhibition which is co-curated by Rebecca Prinster and Nick Estes, Professor at UNM and Co-Founder of the Red Movement.
- The idea is that Indigenous peoples consider their history and place in the world with the concept of Seven Generations consisting of three generations before them, three generations coming after them and their current generation
- The digital experience is full of information linking the graphics and historic articles to the movement
- Elizabeth Becker will incorporate portions of this presentation into the Museum's Educational Program

## **IX Foundation Report**

Joni Pierce:

- The Executive Director search is in the second round of interviews with (4) candidates which will be interviewed next week by the Search Committee followed by a third round of interviews by Foundation stakeholders
- Foundation received another excellent audit report this year
- ArtsThrive was a success this year working under COVID regulations, but revenues were lower.
- We are re-imagining the Shaken Not Stirred fundraising event which will be consistent with the theme of the Mexican Modernism Exhibit which will be on display during the date of this event
- The capital campaign is on hold at this time and will be relaunched with the new Executive Director in place. Andrew is working with the Foundation on a PR campaign for a new educational center and what it will do for the community and the museum.

#### **X New Business**

No New Business

#### **XI Adjourn**

Joni Pierce made a motion to adjourn, Judith N. Suiter provided a second. Motion approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 12:58pm