

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

**12 February, 2020**

**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

**City of Albuquerque Cultural Services**

Dr. Shelle Sanchez, Director

**aM FOUNDATION:**

Marney Hupper, Board of Directors President

**Albuquerque City Council**

Councilor Isaac Benton

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

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**Meeting called to order**

Chairperson Pamela Weese Powell called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Beverly moved to approve the December 11th meeting minutes, Hal seconded.  
The motion passed unanimously.

**Chairperson's Report – Pamela Weese Powell**

Pamela reported on her experience in Santa Fe in regards to the lobbyist who is working to reserve funds for the Museum's Education Center, among other Arts and Cultural Service Institutional interests. She expressed hearing positive feedback and clarified questions regarding the type of funds that are being lobbied for and the exact dollar amount.

Pamela voiced concern in regards to a conversation she had with Councilor Pat Davis where he had mentioned that he did not see the Museum on the 2021 bonds list. After discussion amongst the board, Andrew stated that he would get with Dr. Shelle Sanchez to discuss this.

**Museum Director's Report—Andrew Connors**

- Reported on the initiative to reroof new and older parts of the Museum.
- The following Monday the Museum's new solar power system will go live. Andrew expressed praise for the company that has been working with the Museum to install solar panels.
- There are three new staff positions in various stages of being filled
  - The New Curator of History hire has been approved by the Selections Committee and has moved on to be processed by the City.
  - The following week they will be hosting interviews for a new Receptionist.

- The Administrative Supervisor position has been posted.
- Commented on the new crowd that the Dreams Unreal and Jim Henson exhibitions are drawing to the Museum.
- About 45,000 visitors have seen the Jim Henson exhibit, matching the Visions of the Hispanic World exhibit in less time.

## **Foundation Report**

### Marney Hupper, Board of Directors President

- Each AMF committee is working to rewrite charters to be more clear and focused.
- Joni Pierce is working on long range strategic planning.
- Shaken Not Stirred is scheduled for May, with tickets and tables available soon. Marney asked for support from the BOT to reach more companies and businesses as sponsors for this event.
- Working on further formalizing membership, with a person from the AMF taking the head of this initiative.
- Reported on the maintenance of Patio Market, specifically the roof leaks.
- The AMF board has committed \$240,000 toward the Museum's Education Center with almost all board members making commitments.
- Also reported on the progress in Santa Fe.
- There are three cocktail parties scheduled for June as fundraisers for the Education Center, to which the board is invited.

## **Curator Reports**

### Elizabeth Becker, Curator of Education

- Shared wonderful excerpts from the comment books for the Jim Henson exhibit some of which described the exhibit as “bottled nostalgia” and “timeless, classic, and fun.”
- A lot of upcoming programming geared toward families like the Puppeteer Program, spring break programs, Weekly Storytime, and more.
- Andrew spoke to Elizabeth's hard work.

### Josie Lopez, Curator of Art

- Distributed a sheet of Acquisitions from the committee and expounded on recent acquisitions, specifically on how new pieces strengthen our collections and correlate with scheduled exhibitions.
- Spoke about visiting artist Nicola Lopez whose work will be on view in June.
- Current exhibitions:
  - Dreams Unreal
  - Jim Henson
  - Let the Sunshine In
- Upcoming exhibitions:
  - Trinity: Reflections on the Bomb
  - Eye to I: Self-Portraits from the National Portrait Gallery
  - La Posada Prints
  - 30 Americans.

### Andrew Connors, Curator of History Report

- Andrew distributed the minutes from the previous history curatorial meeting and provided a brief report.
- Noted that the next meeting will be halted until the new Curator of History begins their position.
- Currently 6000 objects are on the Museum's e-Museum.

## **Other Reports and Guests**

### Denise Crouse, Communications Manager

- KRQE is reporting on the attendance numbers for the Jim Henson exhibit today at 4:00.
- Reported that despite the usual social media slump throughout the months of December and January, the numbers have been high.
- Provided list of recent media coverage.

### Councilor Isaac Benton

- Expressed praise for Pamela's work as Board Chair.
- Expressed his support for the institution and offered his help, Dr. Shelle Sanchez brought up the specific concern regarding a full-time staff person at Casa San Isidro. Discussion around this possibility ensued.

**Meeting Adjourned @12:51pm by Pamela**