

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES  
ALBUQUERQUE MUSEUM**

14 August 2018 | Amended per 10 October 2018 BOT meeting

Present: BOT members

Judith Suiter, Chair  
joni m palmer, Secretary  
Wayne Chew  
Pamela Weese  
Hal Behl  
Beverly Bendicksen  
Alan Weitzel

CABQ STAFF

Andrew Connors, Museum Director  
Cynthia Garcia, Assistant Director  
Elizabeth Becker, Curator of Education  
Deb Slaney, Curator of History  
Denise Crouse, Communications Manager  
Dr. Shelle VanEtten Sanchez, Cultural  
Services Director  
Deborah Good, Outgoing AM Foundation President  
Emily Blaugrund Fox, Executive Director, AM Foundation  
Aaron Gardner, Site Manager, Casa San Ysidro

Absent: Louise Campbell-Tolber, Maria Griego-Raby, new AM Foundation President

Action Items in RED.

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**Meeting called to order**

Chairperson Judith Suiter called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

**Introductions**

Judith: Full house today and some new people attending, so started with introductions!

**Approval of / Revisions to Minutes**

Pamela moved to approve the minutes, Wayne Chew seconded. Unanimous approval.

**Welcome to new BOT members: Alan Weitzel and Beverly Bendicksen**

Alan and Beverly were asked to tell us a little bit about themselves (re: interest in the museum and BOT).

**Andrew introduces new staff** Aaron Gardner, Site Manager, Casa San Ysidro and Jillian Hartke, Digital Archivist

- Andrew noted that BOT needs to know all of the staff, continuing Kathy's tradition ...  
Jill: history, library science, museum studies; Missouri State Archives, and talked about her ideas for the archives (e.g., getting museum visitors to engage with the archives)  
Aaron: UNM 2015: Cultural Anthropology and ENVIS, Los Poblanos experience, and described some of the programs he wants to institute at Casa

Q/Alan: homesteading program

Q/Emily: partnerships with Little Dirt, in the field heritage

Q/Pamela: Full-time site manager at Casa?

Q/New Tour Coordinator = Vincent Baca

→ invite to next meeting?!: Vincent has left the position

Q/Hal: How'd we find him!!?

**Visibility of the Museum**

Judith asked Denise about recent visibility of the museum

- Denise - Since 1 May, 27 instances of "earned media" (see handout)
  - Making stories about the museum accessible to the public
  - Fantastic team she's working with (set samples out for us to look at)

- Pamela introduced AdWallet, said it was a good business tool
- Ad/Media budget, e.g., *Albuquerque Journal*, re: new show in Spanish

### Chairperson's Report—Judith Suiter

Discussion of applicant ranking for BOT vacant positions

- Formed a committee and met with Shelle in June
- Wayne: 5 applicants: 1 did not submit a resume, 1 application was dated, 3 met criteria
  - Criteria: diversity, enthusiasm, interest, background, availability
  - Each member of the committee scored each application
  - Top 3 recommended to BOT#
    - 1: Helen Atkins: young, artist, involved in city activism
    - #2: Nicky Ovitt
    - #3: Jerry Goss
- DISCUSSION
  - RE: #1 Candidate, Helen Atkins
    - Elizabeth: taught in summer refugee program
    - Pamela: does a lot with Harwood, would bring average age of BOT down 😊, strongly recommends
    - Shelle: young, active in arts community, bi-racial = will bring new voice to BOT and new questions for discussion, very engaged in the community, #2 also a good choice
- Judith, WHAT NEXT?
  - BOT recommends and sends 2-3 names up to the Mayor
  - Shelle takes names to the Mayor
    - Mayor makes final decision
- Judith, WHAT NEXT?
  - BOT recommends and sends 2-3 names up to the Mayor
  - Shelle takes names to the Mayor
  - Mayor makes final decision
- Q/Alan: How long is a full term?
- No further discussion
- Motion for candidates #1, #2, and #3 to be taken to the mayor. Moved by Pamela, seconded by Hal, all in favor = motion passes
- Judith will write Shelle a letter, and Shelle will take to the mayor

### Museum Director's Report—Andrew Connors

- 6<sup>th</sup> week as director 😊
- Commended Cynthia on her work as interim director. She is now helping Andrew get settled in!
  - Board handbooks are being prepared for the new board members
    - Pamela will give Andrew her copy
    - Deborah, give Maria a copy too
- Need an administrative assistant to keep continuity going from director to director
- Down 8 positions: permanent positions lost through the years
- **Current staff list: Q/Hal: when can we have a complete list?**
- Andrew is going to create an organization chart that provides a note about who is temporary and who is permanent
- Will be updating the Staff Handbook
- Want BOT to think about issues/thinking points, re: what Andrew should address as new director/over next 2 months
  - Andrew recited the questions
  - Judith asks: How should we have this discussion?

- joni will clarify questions with Andrew and send out to BOT to respond. Joni will compile all responses and bring to next meeting for discussion.

Q/Deb: Museum website and BOT minutes?

- Links to City website

### Foundation Report

- Sponsored successful trip to Italy
  - Hal brought his whole family ☺
  - Thanks to Emily for putting this together!
- New President, met with yesterday
- New Vice President, too: Marney Hupper
- Both will be great!
- Arts Thrive
  - Emily has tickets
  - \$85 = same price as last year | Gala set for Saturday 20 October
  - \$300 for Collectors' Dinner | Friday 19 October (ticket also good for Saturday)
  - **Please think about people to introduce to the event – we want/need new faces!**
  - Please take a few cards for Vara Wine
    - Support Foundation and Museum
    - This is a mutually beneficial partnership with a local business
- Repairs around Batten House...
- Bringing on 6 new Board members
- In transition with new President
- Appreciated being on this board ☺
- Maria will be at next meeting [will be confirmed at next week's Council meeting]

### Curator Reports

#### Deb Slaney, Curator of History

- Start with serious stuff first → starts with background
  - National Initiative: archeological initiative, works, collection, donations
    - Native American ... Act: sacred objects, etc.
    - Our turn to present out material to National Register: 6 sets of human remains, funerary objects
    - Finally published in Fed Register last week. As of Friday museum must send letters to tribes, re: the materials (18 Pueblos)
    - Cultural Services/Mayor's Office Press Release
    - Expect calls from tribes ...
    - Process ensues, re: items in collection
    - Over the next month or 2, please ask if you have any questions
- History ADV meeting on 1 August [See handout]
  - New faces and lost a couple people
  - Need BOT representative to replace Louise
  - Need Tom's replacement, re: Foundation
  - Jerry Goss made donation: Portable EKG machine
  - Gift of warranty deeds
- Interesting "looking" artefact
  - Her best example of "inherent vice" = artefact destroys itself
  - Perfect condition in the 1980's, but in last few years it is melting. Time to take the initiative = deaccession request. H ADV enthusiastically agrees it needs to leave collection

- Will use as a teaching tool ☺
- Disposal = self-destruction
- VOTE, formal deaccession: Beverly moves, Deb seconds, all in favor = motion passed

#### Elizabeth Becker, Curator of Education

- In midst of 9<sup>th</sup> season of Chatter @ Museum
  - Great = offer for free, partners are Urban Enhancement Fund and Foundation  
Re: American Jewelry and Patrick Nagatani [PN]
- This week 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday = Baroque concert in the lobby of the museum
- Following week Thursday = FLUTEBOT, fictional character from 24<sup>th</sup> c [inspired by PN exhibit photos]
- Public Library partnership
  - 3 years
  - Book *Joy Luck Club* (re: exhibit), discussion at Museum + tour of “visible/invisible”
- Upcoming program: American Jewelry talk, Douglas Magnus (Santa Fe Jewelry + owner of Cerrillos Mine since 1970’s)
- Getting ready for Harvest Festival at Casa
  - Aaron has a wonderful schedule set up for 29 + 30 September  
[Andrew: Kathy started tradition of UPCOMING EVENTS at the bottom Agenda]

#### Art Curators Report

- Meeting this afternoon
- Gifts discussion
- *Works on Paper* opens on Saturday
- Q/Hal: position?  
A/Andrew: position closes on Friday
  - As early as Monday will receive names and will be reviewed by committee  
Andrew puts together. Top applicants will be interviewed by same committee  
[Shelle = end of the month will know top candidates]
- Judith: back to History & Arts Advisory Committee
  - 2 openings: Alan and Beverly for BOT rep? Alan says YES!
  - Staff is going to recommend additional person, Deborah Jojola

#### **New Business**

- Joni asked for discussion about new meeting time/day
  - Judith proposes change meeting to Wednesday 11:30 am – 1 pm  
= October 10<sup>th</sup> (not 9<sup>th</sup>) + December 11<sup>th</sup> (not 12<sup>th</sup>)
  - Motion by Pamela, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wayne, all in favor = motion passes
  - Denise will make changes to website. Thank you Denise ☺

#### **Adjourn @ 1:01 pm**

Judith Suiter moved that the meeting be adjourned and Wayne Chew seconded. Unanimous approval.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday 10 October @ 11:30 am to 1 pm  
in the ABQ Museum Conference Room**

#### **Fall 2018 Board of Trustees Meetings:**

December 12