The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Abruzzo at 4:02 PM.

Present were Nancy Abruzzo, Tom Fisher, Greg Shuman, Bobbie Tuley, Margie Marino, Betty Ann McDermott, Angela Romero and Karen Brown. Also present were museum staff Paul Garver, Linda Hubley, Marilee Nason and Laurie Magovern and Foundation staff Jill Lane.

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed. Nancy questioned a comment made by Karen in the last paragraph of the minutes. Karen explained what she meant and no changes were made. Greg moved and Betty Ann seconded the minutes be approved as written.

MUSEUM REPORTS

FIESTA BRIEFING

Everyone is busy with Fiesta preparations. Laurie handed out a copy of the volunteer handbook that includes a day by day schedule. She encouraged Board members to volunteer. There are still openings for rovers, greeters, theater hosts and shuttle drivers and people can register online. Volunteers will receive a nametag, t-shirt and jackets (if they work 20 hours).

Upcoming pre-Fiesta events include the theater opening on September 22 at 4:00 pm, the Darth Vader and Yoda Awaken on September 30 from 9 am to noon and the Hall of Fame induction ceremony on September 30 at 5 pm. Troy Bradley is one of the inductees so there will likely be a large crowd.

During Fiesta the museum will be open from 6am to 6pm. There will be food trucks and craft beer on the east lawn, a pet friendly area and some games.

New exhibits will include a partial opening of Arctic Air, the additions to the Hall of Fame and an interactive exhibit in the Weather Lab on the Albuquerque Box. The theme is Find Joy and Fly and includes large sculptures where people can form the Y in the words and have their picture taken. There will also be a new exhibit featuring Buddy Bombard who will be here on Tuesday for a reception. Bombard is known as an innovator in ride balloons and one of his large balloons was donated for the exhibit. He put together four star trips which included deluxe accommodations and gourmet food.

The new theater will feature a short movie about the museum and a 4D movie called “Aerobatic Challenge”. The gallery next to the theater will feature a virtual reality adventure.

Balloon Explorium will be staffing Balloon School and will include their flight simulators and other activities from 9 am to 3 pm. The radio controlled balloons will also be featured every day. There will be an art studio, Stories in the Sky and there will be docent led tours at 2:00 pm each day.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Paint Night and Glow
Buddy Bombard Tribute – October 4 from 6-8 pm at $40 per person. Each trustee received an invitation and ticket.

Joy and Fly Family Day – October 9, 5:30 to 9:00 am $5.00/person.

Balloons and Breakfast and Dine and Glow are 10% off for all members and some are sold out.

Each Trustee received an all event pass for parking at the museum and two additional packets to be given as a stewardship tool.

FOUNDATION

Jill invited the Board members to experience Fiesta at the viewing events. They include premiere viewing of Fiesta, a meal, beverages and a cash bar in the evening, shuttles to the field, a pin and 10% off in the shoppe. Garcia’s will cater breakfast and the Cooperage will do the evenings. There is a group price for booking a table.

Nancy invited everyone to attend the Board reception at her house on September 20 at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP by the 15th.

Several Board members voiced their appreciation and admiration to the staff and Foundation for the ambitious and exciting Fiesta schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.