

Board of Trustees Virtual Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 13th, 2021

3:00 - 4:30 pm, conducted via ZOOM web hosting

Members in attendance: Josh Bacon, Troy Bradley, Peter Cuneo, Sid Gutierrez, Cindy Hernandez-Wall, Karen Brown, JD Huss

Museum Stakeholders in Attendance: Nan Masland, Eric Wimmer; Lynn Newton, Hakim Bellamy, Laurie Magovern, Becky Guy, Rebecca Prinster

Meeting called to order.

Approval of minutes unanimously passed.

Presentation by Deputy Director, Cultural Services Department Hakim Bellamy

regarding updated city ordinance for all boards of trustees. Slide from Hakim shared via email from Peter and also Zoom screen shared. No one on our board has served two terms. Working with city councilors Nov/Dec and forward with a new model. Goal now is to refill board seats by districts. If a councilor wants the person currently from their district serving, to continue to serve, they can make an “OC” (other communication) and appointment the board member to continue to serve without getting council approval. Otherwise councilors can offer two candidates within 60 days. If they don’t offer names, mayor can offer up two different names to council.

Cuneo -Steps to ratification?

Bellamy - City is trying to figure out when “the clock starts,” and when councilors are going to get their recommendations in. The clock may be starting Jan 1st. Unclear. Timing may be end of March before any votes take place.

Introduction of Becky Guy - Exhibit Curator and Designer for Women in Ballooning/ Women on Ground and In The Air.

Guy summarized meaning and goal of exhibit. Blueprint shared of exhibit. Mural/ artist and concept explained.

Also introduced the sound experience created by artist Mirabelle Jones. Audio clips will be triggered by visitors.

Introduction of Rebecca Prinster -

conducted interviews last year and writing all of the narrative content. Started last March. Not from ABQ., lots learned regarding ballooning from female pilots. Twenty interviews over the phone when balloons grounded during Covid. Spoke to pilots Abq, midwest and internationally. Narrative loosely follows chronological order. Themes emerged: family, community, magic of flying. Women chasing records. All will be represented in exhibit. Also highlighting ballooning families which is common theme.

Wall/Masland - talk of an opening for new exhibit. Museum will be open. First opening during pandemic.

Cuneo- request board members become active in operations of museum. Introduction of idea that Support would like the Museum to have balloon exhibit. Board can contribute ideas to Masland or Cuneo.

Collections....need to document verbally and on video. Board members can make connections with people they know.

Masland- collection curator position not filled so waiting. In the meantime board members interested in working on collections can add their name with Cuneo to this committee.

Wall- how exactly do you want us to help regarding how we make connections with people?

Masland- Eventually looking for first hand knowledge from those who have donated to the collection. Gave credit to Eric Wimmer- for doing fantastic job as registrar- cleaning records.

Wall-can we get task list from Eric as to how we can help?

Brown- suggest having meeting of Collections committee

Masland - who on board would like to continue or join on Collections Committee: Peter, Cindy, Troy, Josh, Karen

Masland offered to facilitate Zoom meeting February.

Wall - suggested committee to help Nan with Women and Ballooning and figuring out how to promote with Covid restrictions etc.

Brown - We can also bring Foundation in to help and join committee. Foundation director, Laurie Magovern agreed.

Masland- committee for Women in Ballooning roll out: Cindy and Karen (Cindy also volunteered Nancy).

Museum Manager, Nan Masland summarized progress on Museum status due to Covid. Museum re-opened after having to temporarily close due to exposure by front of house staff member (who ended up negative).

Linda Hubley operations manager retired end of year. Hoping to refill her position soon. Marilee Nason /Curator position posted and closed on January 9th/waiting for applications. Social media specialist Leona Davis-Brown left... optimist to soon fill since it is a part time position. Two interns this semester...one with collections and another helping with social media and videos.

Nan also announced progress on branding launch - go ahead from Mayor. Ordered some promotional gear, no date yet. Hoping for Feb or March.

Women in Ballooning- coming along.

Hall of Fame- changing colors to reflect new branding.

Sunport Exhibit- looking for engagement from board. Lynn has put together structure for exhibit. No budget. At Sunport. Looking for committee. Interested board members: Cindy, Peter (and Cindy volunteered Nancy). If we have too many people meeting we will need to officially post meeting. Nan will check the exact number per open meetings act.

Strategic Plan - need to get working on. More will be discussed at May meeting.

Staff Reports

Eric Wimmer - handling both registrar and collections responsibilities. Most recently building data base and putting in more objects and cleaning up data base. Two interns joining soon. One of first projects, Julian Knott collections. Knott personal library huge task and perfect for intern.

Collections-Eric recently developed temporary receipt. If items leave there is now a paperwork trail. Incoming loan form also being worked on by city's legal team.

Great Race Gondola, in bad shape, not presentable. Aerco (FAA certified repair station in town) will hydrate and give TLC to make presentable for future displays.

Aerco also identified other gondolas needing TLC. This is good first step for collection care.

Exhibitions Curator - Lynn Newton- Appreciative of video project that is very useful that Marilee (and Lynn) created. Excellent way of being able to document and share with new employees.

Hall of Fame moving closer to front entry area. Space area is more clear. Will review objects that were on display (burners). It wasn't clear that those burners were owned by former inductees...work being done to make a better connection between inductees and objects.

Including Quad A in exhibit. Working to create better explanation to visitors about bigger picture of ballooning in regards to: balloon club, FAIA, and how relates to everything... NAA, BFA examples of different governing bodies and who handles national competitions etc. Including education... and how locals can get involved in balloon. Introduction to all these entities in ballooning including awards and possible examples on display.

Great Race gondola.... idea to display this along with Vote's first commercial shape balloon along with Raven balloon and the story of Raven.

Anyone who knew Jim Winker... please reach out to chat.

Sunport- meet/greet area would like 1882 launch story. Grand Hall - opportunity for projection to show new branding and identity. Also kiosk to tell more about museum and exhibits.

50th Balloon Fiesta - working on interactive timelines.

Nan- question in chat from Cindy...Can someone address budget regarding airport display.

Nan- Sunport has money, hoping for support from them, also putting in ask with city. Also reaching out to Rainbow Ryders and Vara.

Sid- We have limited resources but Support is great opportunity.

Peter- Can we look at corporate sponsorship? Willing to ask after budget researched.

Foundation Executive Director- Laurie Magovern -

Direct ask campaign end of year. -Thankful to all who were able to participate. Jan/ Feb legislation season. Foundation approved to work with lobbyist Jeremy Rutherford. Working to integrate both boards to reach out to legislators. Board of directors meets 6 times a year. One of meetings will be additional- April 9th strategic retreat, asking Trustees to save the date if anyone would like to participate. This is Foundation strategic meeting, not the strategic plan Nan has been working on. There will be committees meeting on regular bases and Peter mentioned integrating some Trustees members into those Foundation committees. Some people may be interested in Museum Shop Committee, Government relations committee and /or Fundraising-

Events still important. Examine progress of re-opening post Covid. Need to be creative to keep donations coming in.

Peter- volunteering to be on Government relations committee.

Next meeting - March 10th- move to 3:30pm

Peter - Any other business? No

Motion to adjourn meeting.

Collections Committee:

Peter, Cindy, Troy, Josh, Karen

Nan Committee for Women in Ballooning roll out: Cindy and Karen

Foundation Government Relations Committee:Peter

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