

ANDERSON ABRUZZO ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

JUNE 14, 2017

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

Present were Nancy Abruzzo, Tom Fisher, Bobbie Tuley, Peter Cuneo, Betty Ann McDermott, and Karen Brown. Also present were museum staff Linda Hubley, Marilee Nason, and Amanda Lujan. Foundation staff Jill Lane was also present.

The minutes from the last meeting were read. There was a small spelling correction. Bobbie moved and Peter seconded minutes be approved as corrected.

MUSEUM REPORT

Attendance and revenue are both running close to last year's figures.

The strategic planning is ongoing.

The FAI is soliciting bids to host the Drone World Championships. Albuquerque is submitting a bid.

The museum lost \$50,000 in the budget process which will cost us Katy's position and one of the open positions as well. Permanent positions were unaffected and the contracts remain in effect. The lighting retrofit is underway converting all the inside and outside lighting to LED which will save money in maintenance. There will be some changes made in the Fiesta program this year due to the budget cuts, the doors will be open from 6AM to 6PM and there will be no arts and crafts room this year. Foundation event patrons will be able to enter early.

FOUNDATION – Jill

Foundation membership is growing with two new lifetime members. All Fiesta materials are online and registration is open for Breakfast and Balloons and Dine and Glow. This year will add a new event geared to locals called Magnify Your View. For \$25 they will get parking, a museum pass and access to the gift shoppe. Viewing will be in the West Meeting Room. So far there are four Skyboxes and six groups registered. There are still Skybox rentals available. The cost is \$1,000 for the small rooms, combined with the Board room is \$1,500 and Sky Lounge is \$4,500. Food is an additional cost.

The Foundation is completing its part of the strategic plan including a new mission statement and a new logo designed by Vince Lee. The Foundation Board members assisted in lobbying on the city budget.

The Foundation is developing a Planned Giving program which will be introduced at the Leadership Luncheon on August 10, 11:30 am in conjunction with the opening of the Weather Lab.

The Museum Shoppe is doing well. All consignment items have been closed out and either purchased from the artist or returned. We are moving away from a souvenir shop to a museum shop. Items will relate to exhibits in the museum.

Tickets are on sale for the Red, White and Balloons event on July 4. The concert band will entertain and the Stars and Stripes Dinner is expected to sell out.

Karen gave an update on Chic-I-Boom Ball on August 4 and encouraged the Trustees to get together and purchase a table and to buy raffle tickets.

Jill distributed the YTD report on the Foundation contribution to the museum. \$48,000 was budgeted and \$60,000 was actual contribution.

COLLECTIONS – Marilee

The museum has received some Gordon Bennett materials from the family of Albert Van Dem. The mural in the classroom was on display at the Open Space Visitor Center and was given to us. We also received a personal letter from Maxie Anderson about Double Eagle II

Marilee attended an Emergency Preparedness Workshop. She will be completing the plan in the near future. Marilee is moving her office to the annex. Two out of the three coolers are working and there are new seals on the doors.

The Travel Channel series Mysteries at the Museum has visited several times. Several future programs will feature the museum. One will focus on a ballast bag from the Andree exhibit and the other used one of our 19th century baskets. The FAI has been using us a fact checker involving a Guinness entry on the Gordon Bennett. Marilee will be working with Buddy Bombard on a new book.

EDUCATION – Amanda

Stories in the Sky will feature guest presenters through the summer until Laurie returns to work. Stories is averaging 120 people and Music in the Sky is drawing around 50. We will be partnering with Lakeshore Learning. Their staff will be featured once a month. A grant application has been submitted to the Hancock Foundation for \$2,000.

Six new docents were trained and online recruitment for Fiesta will begin later in the summer.

There were 108 schools that visited on field trips with 4,500 children and adults. Flying Bus has also increased and we will be hosting the BFA Rio Grande Balloon Camp in July.

EXHIBITIONS – Amanda

Public programs will feature Drone Day on June 25. We will celebrate the anniversary of the Andree flight on July 11 with a talk on Jules Verne by a local expert and translator.

Exhibits

Weather Lab will open in August

Aerial Firsts in America will open in September

The Hall of Fame will be updated with the new inductees and completed before the induction ceremony and will be expanded and refreshed in January 2018.

We recently hosted our 1 millionth guest.

EVENTS AND RENTALS – Linda

Past events included the Renaissance Fair with visitation at 4,000, Folk Festival at 3,000 and the first two concert band concerts at 550.

Upcoming events:

Band concerts June 14 and 28 and July 12

Mac and Cheese Fest – August 19

Mini Makers Fair – August 26 and 27.

We are slightly down in rental revenue for April and May but on track for the year.

Brenda, one of the event crew members will take a 90 day break in service so Linda is looking for someone to work for the 90 days.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nancy noted the upcoming Mayoral race and the need to get the museum on the radar. Please contact any one of the candidates you might know and promote the museum. The field should narrow soon.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.