

ANDERSON-ABRUZZO INTERNATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 8, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm.

Present were Nancy Abruzzo, Tom Fisher, Greg Shuman, Angela Romero, Peter Cuneo, Bobbie Tuley, Betty Anne McDermitt, Cindy Hernandez Wahl and Karen Brown. Staff present were Paul Garver, Marilee Schmidt Nason, Linda Hubley and Amanda Lujan. Jill Lane represented the Foundation

The minutes were read. Betty Anne moved and Angela seconded that the minutes be approved as written.

Paul introduced Amanda Lujan, the new Exhibit Curator. Amanda worked for the Girl Scouts, for the New Mexico State Museums and did summer camps for NMNHS.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Paul reported that the attendance is up 4% over last year .That trend is expected to continue and should top 144,000 by the end of the fiscal year. Paul also reported he has talked with former astronaut Sid Gutierrez about joining the board. He is very interested.

Strategic planning is underway. Paul met with the Trustees and the Foundation in separate meetings and will follow up with both later in the month.

The city budget process is also underway. Starting in July, the special revenues will no longer be available to the museum and will be placed in the general fund. The administration has promised to compensate the museum with an appropriate amount to be added to the budget. Greg asked if the special revenues could go to the Foundation instead. Paul noted that idea has been brought up and may be pursued further.

FOUNDATION

Jill noted there has been lots of activities. The second Leadership Luncheon was held in January, with 25 people attending. Lobbying Day and Aviation Day at the legislature went well. Paul and Jill visited with 12 legislators. We are not asking for any money.

May 7 will be the first New Mexpo travel and tourism expo. There will be representatives from several destinations, storytelling, speakers' forum, food and entertainment. Cost will be \$5 for adults and \$3 for children.

There is a report from the Foundation on the table showing budget and spending through January. Peter asked if the Trustees could see the entire Foundation budget. Jill noted the report covers the Foundations contribution to the city. Cindy asked about marketing. There is a small budget but much of the advertising is in-kind.

COLLECTIONS

Marilee reported that the volunteers have been trained on Arctic Air and that she is taking an online class in collections management.

EDUCATION

The volunteer party is scheduled for this Saturday at 11:30 am. All are welcome, New volunteer and docent training will begin in April. A second segment has been added to Stories in the Sky and will be called Music in the Sky and will be held on Wednesday afternoons. The first segment had an attendance of about 50. There was a visiting family from Wales and the children learned to say I Love You in several languages.

Science in the Sky starts late February and is sold out through March. The next big event will be Rise and Try Week from March 18 through March 25. It will include Spring Break family Day, an Intergalactic arts day, drones, photography and Ballooning For All Day.

EXHIBITIONS

Katy will be taking over some of Amanda's duties so she can concentrate on exhibits Amanda is gathering artifacts for the Weather Lab. Michael Glen, a pilot from Arizona will be here on March 24 and will teach older children about crewing as well as talk to them about his journey. Michael is one of only two paraplegic balloon pilots in the world.

EVENTS

Linda provided the statistics for the year to date. There were 22 events December, 18 in January and 22 on the calendar for February. Shamrock Fest is March 11. It is shaping up to be a big event with some of the proceeds benefiting the Foundation.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Nancy reported on the first meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee. The group brainstormed on the mission statement. She noted there was a new mission statement drafted by the Trustees a few years earlier but no one seems to be able to find it. The group felt there are untapped markets and we need to understand who we are, what we do and how we do it. The group was tasked with researching mission statements from other aviation museums.

OFFICERS

The officers for 2017 were confirmed:

Chair – Nancy Abruzzo

Vice Chair – Tom Fisher

Secretary – Karen Brown

Cindy nominated Tom and Angela seconded. Passed.

MEETING SCHEDULE

April 12

June 14

August 9

September 20 (Fiesta briefing)

November 8

The Boards cocktail hour will be at Nancy's in September.

NEW BUSINESS

Nancy brought up the Mayoral election and the need to network with the candidates. We should have a good idea by July or August who will be on the ballot. Jill suggested a joint meeting to discuss the best approach to the candidates.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.