

ANDERSON ABRUZZO ALBUQUERQUE INTERNATIONAL BALLOON MUSEUM

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

APRIL 6, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nancy Abruzzo at 4:04 PM.

Present were Nancy Abruzzo, Tom Fisher, Greg Shuman, Cindy Hernandez-Wall, Bobbie Tuley, Margie Marino and Karen Brown. Also present were museum staff Paul Garver, Linda Hubley, Marilee Nason and Foundation staff Holly Lowe and Jill Lane.

The minutes from the last meeting were read. It was noted that Margie is a member not a guest. Gary moved and Tom seconded the minutes be approved as corrected.

MUSEUM REPORT – Paul

Attendance is up 19% and revenues are up 18%. Attendance should pass 130,000 by the end of the year. The Strategic Planning process has begun with the assessment part of the plan being conducted by Spark City. The department should have that part done by summer. It includes finance, governance, infrastructure etc.

The theater is on track for completion slated for late May. Jonathan Wolfe at the Fractal Foundation is working on films. The contract has been approved for Artic Air and it should be open by the end of the summer. The weather lab is fully funded and the city and UNM are working through the approval process. Construction should begin around July 1.

The museum is partnering with RoboRave on a worldwide lighter-than-air robotic challenge. The challenge will be announced in May with the results announced in 2017.

Paul discussed the city budget documents he had emailed to the Board. There are several sources of funds combined, including capital outlay special revenues, bonds etc. The city budget is an important document. The museum did not actually lose ground in this budget but Paul did not get what he asked for. The museum had requested \$70,000 for maintenance and additional funds for staffing for a total of \$209,000. The budget is now in the hands of the council. The public comment will be accepted on April 21. Paul encouraged the Board to attend and advocate for the additional funds as well as send letters and emails to councilors requesting their support. The maintenance funds are a priority.

COLLECTIONS AND EXHIBITS

Marilee reported on the visit by Dr. Fred Goldberg, an expert on Artic exploration history. She thanked the foundation for their help in funding his visit. He did five lectures; three at the museum, one at Palo Duro Senior Center and volunteer training. He also loaned the museum some materials to do a nice philatelic exhibit. The new exhibit will feature a ballast bag from the Andree flight, a 1960s poster featuring the flight.

Marilee was also able to secure a bullhorn which was used for pilot briefings at the early Fiestas, donated by Don Piccard.

## EVENTS AND RENTALS

Linda discussed upcoming events and activities. The Shamrock Fest on March 12 attracted about 2,000 people, but was ended early because of the weather. The Food Truck Festival is coming up this weekend and the Renaissance Fair is April 30. Inquiries for March total 51, with 8 events booked.

## EDUCATION

Paul reported for Laurie on the success of recent programs. Ballooning for All in March featured six tethered balloons including Fly the Rainbow, a handicapped accessible balloon. Over 1,000 attended. Spring Break Day was a great success as well with over 1,100 attending. Science in the Sky had visitation of 700 people more than last year. Other events included Women and Creativity and more installation of the rammed earth benches.

## FOUNDATION

Jill explained the hard hats and invitations on the table. The Board is invited to participate in a Leadership Luncheon on April 22. The event is intended to introduce community leaders to the new exhibits and activities happening at the museum and will include a tour and a lunch catered by The Cooperage. Please bring someone you think would be appropriate for this event and let Jill know who will be coming

Red, White and Balloons is a new event taking place on July 4. The museum will host the Albuquerque Concert Band from 6-7 pm, picnic spots or tables on the lawn, and a Stars and Stripes Dinner from 7:30 with guests invited to stay to watch the fireworks. Tickets are \$10 per adult with kids under 12 free and parking will be \$10. The dinner will be \$20/person.

The raffle for a trip to Hawaii has been launched and is live on the website. Only 500 tickets will be sold at \$25 each or five for \$100.

Nancy asked about the \$144,000 figure listed as support to the city. Jill said it includes the Anderson donation for the theater with direct support of \$46,000.

Manhattan on the Mesa was successful and broke even.

Nancy asked for everyone to keep Gary Libman in their thoughts as he is having more treatments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.