Arizona Historical Society  
Southern Arizona Chapter Board Meeting  
August 6, 2019

Present: Elaine Becherer, Bill Cavaliere, Yvonne Clay, Mary Flynn (Pathfinder representative), Ron Green, Linda Head, Walter Lane, Mark O’Hare, Frank Ratey (Los Amigos representative), Jim Sell, Bob Vint, and Ralph Wong

Absent: Betty Cook, Jeff Horwitz, Craig McEwan, Shirley Pinkerton, and Susanne Walsh

Staff Present: Bill Ponder (Chief Administrative Officer) and David Turpie (Vice-President of Exhibitions and Publications), Susan Irwin (Vice President of Library and Archives)

Guests Present: Volunteer trainee (did not sign in)

Call to Order

President Ron Green called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll was called and a quorum declared.

Approval of Board Minutes

The minutes of the July 9, 2019 Chapter Board Meeting was unanimously approved after a motion from Frank Ratey and seconded by Bob Vint.

USAM 21161 Fund Report

There was no Treasurer’s Report.

President’s Report

President Ron Green stated that he had requested this meeting of the Chapter to put together a slate of officers for our October Annual meeting. In addition, we were unable to get through the entire July agenda items for the Chapter and the 501(c)3. Ron stated that he did not have a roster of current Board members and when they term out. Bill Ponder, as your new liaison, said that generating a current roster and briefing staff responsible for maintaining Chapter Board records would be briefed on duties. Bill stated that he would be replacing David Turpie as our Chapter Board liaison. Linda Head is the only person currently on the Board.

Policies Committee Report

Linda Head stated that she had contacted the chairman of the AHS State Board Governance and Policies Committee. She had requested samples and guidelines for how to submit proposed policies to the State Board.
She will be working with the committee as soon as that information is available to us. Mary Flynn, Bill Cavaliere, and Sandy Chan along Linda Head, Chair.

New Business

The first item under new business was the discussion and action, if any, on funding requests for (USAM 21161). Bill Ponder stated he had no requests. Linda Head asked about the money from the spacing which is going to be rented to the U. of A. Several of the Board members stated that they hadn’t heard about this rental to the U. of A. Bill Ponder stated that the monies generated from facilities rental no longer go to the facility. Mr. Ponder stated that recent restructuring moved the funds generated by rentals will now go to a common fund to be used as is desired by State Administrative Staff. These were concerns by Board members regarding the security of the archives and artifacts. Walter Lane suggested to Bill Ponder that if there were significant changes or issues, it would be helpful is the Board was apprised of them.

The next item under new business was discussion and action, if any, on funding request form. Jim Sell sent around a draft the form.

The third item under new business was discussion and action, if any, on the proposed appointment of Brook Grobosky to the ASH Southern Chapter Board. Ron suggested tabling this discussion until the next meeting since Susanne Walsh, who had submitted his nomination, was not present. Mark O’Hare moved to table. Elaine Becherer seconded. It was voted on and passed.

The next new business item was discussion and action, if any, on the lease of the Arizona History Museum. Mark O’Hare thanked Bill Ponder for getting him a copy of the signed lease. He stated that he and Jim Sell wanted to explore options that might be available prior to when the lease is up in 33 years.

The next item for discussion and action, if any, was the Nomination Committee Slate of Proposed Officers for the 2019-2020 year. Ron Green stated that the nominating committee composed of himself, Walter Lane, Ralph Wong and Yvonne Clay. He made a call to anyone interested in occupying any of the positions. The position of Secretary is a prior because Linda Head will be termed out. Bill Cavaliere recommended Craig McEwan for the job of Secretary. The committee will be working with Board members to create that slate for the annual meeting. Walter Lane suggested that if we had nominations for potential Board members, it might be best to do that voting at the next meeting. Ron Green stated that we would need resume/information submitted in enough time to be sent to the Board for review before the meeting. Several names were mentioned. We will have three potential slots for the Board. Bill Ponder stated that he would get the updated Chapter Board roster to us within the next week.

Next was discussion and action, if any, on the Traveling Exhibits Plan suggested by Susanne Walsh. President Green felt we should discuss in detail at the next meeting when she will be present. Ron gave a brief description of the idea.

Old Business

The first item of old business was discussion and action, if any, on the letter to the State Board regarding membership brochure language. We thought that the old membership brochures with the issues were still being distributed along with the new ones. Mark O’Hare moved that we send a letter to the State Board requesting that the old brochures be removed from all locations and that only the new brochures we used. Bill Cavaliere seconded that motion and it passed unanimously. Mark said he would draft the letter for Ron’s signature. Bill
Ponder stated that the State Board insures that they are abiding by Open Meeting laws, the info for discussion would be distributed by a staff member. Mark will send to Linda Head. She will send to Breann and Bill Ponder and they can send to Board.

Discussion and action, if any, on the status of Jim Sell’s appointment to the State Board was next. Jim stated that he still had not heard anything. Elaine Becherer stated that any of the Board members could contact the Tucson office of the Governor’s Office to inquire.

The next item was discussion of the Open Meeting Laws. Mark O’Hare stated that these laws apply to the email/online environment. Bill Ponder stated that it is acceptable to send items out from the Board to the Board unless those items were items for discussion. Bill Ponder also stated that the AHS with help of ADOA will be setting up trainings for Chapter Board to meeting the required training mandated by the state for all individuals working on behalf of State agencies. That will be happening in the next few weeks. The training will be online and we will be notified individually.

The next item was discussion and action, if any, on list of items submitted by David Turpie at the July meeting. It was decided table this until the next meeting.

The final item of old business was Discussion and action, if any, on the special committee formed to reach out to the County and City for dialogue regarding directing the future of the Ft. Lowell Museum and the Downtown Museum. Elaine stated that there was nothing to report on those two Museums. She did want to give an update on the Rio Nuevo Project and the Sosa Carrillo House. Elaine asked Bill and James Burns if she could advocate for AHS and the Sosa Carrillo House. Elaine asked the City to include the Sosa Carrillo House as one of the projects on the money allocated for Rio Nuevo. Elaine was able to put together a presentation which included a statement from AHS and a representative on hand to speak to the importance of the Sosa Carrillo House. The next step is to find out from the State what they will allocate to stabilizing and renovating the property. Elaine will continue to monitor progress and keep James and Bill informed. Linda Head stated that David Faust, a former employee and one of the people who worked both on the Downtown and Ft. Lowell Museums, had made contact with Yvonne again. Linda stated that she had made contact with Mr. Faust to let him know that when we were going to put focus again on this topic that he (David) would be invited to join and help us. It was mentioned that David had talked about Tucson Meet Yourself and Dillinger Days and the fact that AHS was not taking advantage of the free advertising because of those events. Bill Ponder stated that he would work on having the Downtown Museum open for all or some of the Tucson Meet Yourself event coming up.

Call to the Public

Elaine Becherer used this topic to suggest that we begin thinking about how we can visible at the Arizona History Convention next April which will be in Tucson. Susan Irwin stated that she is involved with that Convention and that it is a separate organization. David Turpie suggested that if we wanted to provide some tours for that event that might be a great contribution. Elaine suggested that we submit as many papers as possible to be considered for the convention. This is an opportunity for the Chapter and the Museum to be very visible.

Announcements

President Green announced that the next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 @ 3:00.
Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:33.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda S. Head, Secretary

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Ron Green, President