

**Minutes of Public Meeting of the Executive
Committee of the Board of Directors of the
Arizona Historical Society**

Mission: Connecting people through the power of Arizona's history.

Monday, November 25, at 1 p.m. at the **Arizona Historical Society, Arizona Heritage Center at 1300 N College Ave, Tempe, AZ 85281** in conference room 244 on the second floor.

Agenda

1. Call to Order - Chair, Voie Coy

Meeting called to order at 2:04 p.m.

2. Roll call (quorum)- Chair, Voie Coy

Members present in person: Voie Coy

Members participating virtually: Tom Foster, Meredith Peabody, Michael Wade, Linda Whitaker

Staff members present in person or virtually: Bill Ponder, James Burns

3. Call to the Public-Consideration and discussion of comments from the public. Those wishing to address the Board need not request permission in advance. Presentations will be limited to five minutes. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the rescheduling of the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date.

No members of the public were present in person or virtually to speak.

4. Discussion and action, if any, to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2019 Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Wade addressed an error in the minutes under item #7, which credited an observation to four board members, when in fact it was one board member who made the statement. Burns was directed to make the correction. Motion was made by Peabody to approve the minutes as amended by Wade; Whitaker seconded; all approved.

5. Discussion and action, if any, to authorize the AHS Executive Director to sign a loan document for the loan of a baptismal font from the AHS permanent collection to the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia in Mexico City on a year-to-year renewable loan.

Whitaker made a motion to approve a resolution allowing the Executive Director to sign the loan documents for the baptismal font to the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia. Whitaker asked why we were not repatriating this artifact to its place of origin? Ponder indicated that the next step might indeed be repatriation. That would need to be discussed and voted on by the full State Board of Directors. All voted members present voted to approve the resolution allowing the Executive Director to sign the loan documents..

6. Discussion and action, if any, regarding the findings and recommendations of the Chapter Funds Task Force.

Peabody reviewed the notes from the chapter funds task force meeting, which included Bruce Gwynn and John Lacy. Peabody spoke with Tom Rose and Kelly Corsette in advance of the call. Three options were presented to the task force for consideration. Response was mixed. Three board members of the task force recommended looking at a new membership model that is centralized and takes a hard look at the whole program, how we market it, and what our markets might be. The Friends of AHS could serve as an umbrella organization to manage multiple earmarked gifts using standard fund accounting. Additional 501(c)3's could be subsidiary organizations under Friends. Savings could be realized under this model. Peabody noted that task force members understood the need for a new membership model, one that covers the costs of the Journal and membership services. Determine if there are ways to save money on the Journal.

The task force also noted the need to define the roles of the chapters; each sees themselves as functioning somewhat differently. What do the chapters need from the organization and what does the organization need from the chapters? Wade stated we need input from support groups. Wade would like more options. He encouraged strengthening the chapters, who can serve as advocates with the legislature.

Peabody detailed the differences between when the 1107 funds were created and now. Membership dues do not cover the Journal of Arizona History and membership services costs. Today 86% of our members are at the minimum level. In our recent membership drive, about 90% of the new members were at the minimum level. Chapter funds sometimes lay fallow; Peabody advocated for the funds that we generate being used for the highest and best use for the organization.

Whitaker reminded the group that the sunset review contains a finding about the chapter boards; we need to make sure this finding is truly resolved so we are prepared for the next sunset review. Coy asked if we should put this on the agenda for the next State Board of Directors meeting. Wade recommended getting feedback from the chapters, and the support groups before doing so as they have a vested interest.

Coy appointed Foster to the task force looking at this issue.

Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Executive Committee, Arizona Historical Society

Dr. Voie Coy, Chair _____ Dated this 11/26/19 _____

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