

**Minutes of Public Meeting of the
Board of Directors of the
Arizona Historical Society
March 25, 2022**

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

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at 12:05 pm by Whitaker.
2. Roll Call – by Downs
Board members present: Robert Ballard, Desirae Barquin, Deborah Bateman, DeNise Bauer, Wynne Brown, Colleen Byron, Stephen Chapman, Kelly Corsette, Linda Elliott-Nelson, Tom Foster, Bruce Gwynn, Sharon Holnback, Richard Powers, Greg Scott, Jim Snitzer, Ileen Snoddy, Valerie Welsh-Tahbo.
Absent: Vance Bryce, Sherry Rampy

Staff present: David Breeckner, Tawn Downs, David Turpie, Rebekah Tabah, Yanna Kruse, Carole McQueen, Melba Davis

Members of the Public: Cathy Schumard, Rachel Pollack, Heidi Osselaer
3. Discussion and action, if any, to approve the Minutes of the January 28, 2022, Board of Directors meeting. (5 min.)
Brown advised a correction needed – Whitaker's name is misspelled, with a "d" instead of a "t" in one place.
Brown moved to approve minutes with correction
Byron seconded the motion.
Unanimously approved with correction.
4. Call to the Public – Consideration and discussion of comments from the public.
Members of the public wishing to address the Board should identify their interest at this time via the chat box. Those wishing to address an item on the agenda will be called upon when that item is being discussed and given up to five minutes. Those wishing to address an item not on the agenda will be allowed up to three minutes. Such Items may not be discussed by the Board but may be directed to Staff for study and consideration at a later date.
None of the public present requested to speak.
5. Summary of Current Events – Brief summary of current events, if any, by the Board Chair, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K). The Board will not discuss, or act on, any current event summary.
No report at this time. Deferred to Breeckner for the Executive Director's report.

6. Executive Director Director's Report -Breeckner – See report included as part of these minutes. Some highlights:
 - Breeckner reported that Guest Experiences led by Yanna Kruse is now gathering data from visitors. This is being done by asking three simple questions in a conversational manner and entering the data into the system.
 - Breeckner then reviewed recent events, indicating AHS received significant press coverage for several of these events:
 - Migrant Quilt Exhibit at AHM – January
 - On Air Exhibit at AHC – February
 - COVID Memorial Day at AHC – March
 - Breeckner reviewed upcoming programs/events:
 - March 31 – Digging Deeper: Exploring New AHS Mining Records (virtual program)
 - April 7: Ask the Author: Negotiating Citizenship in the Termination Era (virtual program)
 - April 26 – Tastes, Toasts & Tales - fundraiser with 8 of AZ’s top chefs
 - Some specific discussions occurred regarding the update on Sosa-Carrillo House: Question from Byron: Will there be community forums around the possible sale? Breeckner responded that they hadn’t planned any at this time. Further discussion ensued, and Whitaker and Breeckner agreed that it would be wise to conduct community meetings with all members of the community to gather feedback and communicate plans. This will go a long way towards building trust and buy-in from the community. Byron emphasized the need to publicize these meetings widely to ensure transparency.
 - Senior staff provided highlights from the report of their respective areas.
 - Breeckner provided some additional detail around a review of collections/archival storage needs. The proposal totals \$3 million, which includes \$1.5 million for Tempe archives, \$.5 million for Tempe collections, and \$1 million for Tucson collections/archives.
7. Sunset Review and Performance Audit - Work pending- Whitaker, Breeckner Governance Committee will meet to work on syncing bylaws and policies.
8. AHS Board Status - Whitaker
 - a. Five renewals confirmed
 - Ballard
 - Bateman
 - Scott
 - Snoddy

- Whitaker

- b. Appointments are taking a long time, in part because Boards and Commissions has had a complete turnover in staff in the past few months. We still need to hold them accountable, but also understand that they are also short-staffed.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee – Whitaker
- b. Finance – Snitzer – No report at this time as financials were just received. We will resume meetings now that we are getting caught up on the financial reporting. At this time finances appear to be stabilized, so the focus will be how to present the financials in a way that is more understandable.
- c. Collections – Scott. No report at this time, as there were no Collections Committee meetings since the last board meeting.
- d. Community Outreach – Foster
 - Action Item: Chair Foster advised that the Outreach Committee recommends that the Center for Creative Photography be approved as a Certified Historical Institution. This application was overlooked during the application process. Gwynn moved to approve. Bateman seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e. Governance Committee Report – Corsette
Corsette had left the meeting. Whitaker advised that Corsette will be calling a meeting soon to begin syncing policies and bylaws
- f. Properties and Buildings – Bauer – No report at this time.

10. Friends of AHS, Inc. (FAHS) Report - Updates - Bateman, Breeckner

Two new consultant positions have been approved, funded by the proceeds of the real estate sale. Breeckner is working with HR on job descriptions. These individuals will be working on preparing AHS for the capital campaign, using the Phoenix Philanthropy report as the basis for their work.

11. Announcements and other matters for consideration in future board or committee meetings.

None.

Executive Committee Schedule: Noon and Virtual unless announced otherwise

April 25, 2022

May 23, 2022

June 20, 2022

July 25, 2022

August 22, 2022

September 26, 2022

October 24, 2022

November 28, 2022

*December 19, 2022 (tentative)

Upcoming AHS Board Meetings: Noon and Virtual unless announced otherwise

May 27, 2022

July 29, 2022 – in person, Flagstaff Annual and Board Meeting

September 30, 2022

*November 18, 2022, third Friday at noon (tentative)

Meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Note: This meeting has been recorded and posted on YouTube. It is available upon request. To request access, complete the Media Information Request form found on the Arizona Historical Society [website](#).

Dated this 28th day of March 2022

Arizona Historical Society

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda A. Whitaker".

Linda Whitaker, Board President