

# Rio Colorado Chapter Board Meeting

## Minutes

**September 13, 2022**

Yuma Main Library, Room B, 2951  
Tuesday, September 13, 2022  
5:30pm S. 21st Drive, Yuma, Arizona 85364

**Call to Order:** 5:40pm

### Roll Call:

**Present:** Bruce Gwynn, Betsy Gottsponer, Tom Rushin, Thelma Lundy, Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, Monica Ketchum-Cardenas

**Absent:** Pete Thompson, Faron Owl, Sue Ann Willen, Emilia Cortez, Tom Rush

**Call to the Public:** None

### AHS Curator Remarks:

Education Curator, Jenny Pennington, introduced herself to the Board as a former Kentucky resident. Jenny shared highlights from her educational and employment background. An overview of her education plan for the Sanguinetti House Museum was described, noting that programs for both children and adults will be offered. Her upcoming children's program is on the topic of Arizona Outlaws. Jenny thanked the Board, mentioning she is grateful for the support she has received in Yuma.

### Discussion and/or action:

- Board Meeting Date: The RCC Board will meet on the fourth Tuesday each month, allowing time for accounting reports to be processed.
- Bruce Gwynn motioned to approve the following slate of new officers:
  - Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson, President
  - Tiffany Ott, Secretary
  - Bruce Gwynn, Vice President
  - Kathi Marcus remains as Treasurer

Lenore Stuart motioned to approve. Betsy Gottsponer seconded. Passed unanimously.

Following this decision, the motion was made for Bruce Gwynn to step down as Vice President to take the position of President with the Yuma County Historical Society. Betsy Gottsponer moved to accept Bruce Gwynn's request to step down as Vice President. Thelma Lundy seconded. Approved unanimously.

Bruce Gwynn asked Board members to consider serving in the capacity of vice president. Tom Rushin volunteered. Betsy Gottsponer motioned to approve Tom Rushin as RCC Vice President, Linda Elliott-Nelson seconded. Approved.

- Molina Block Restroom Project Update:
  - Tom Rushin provided an update on the restroom construction project at the Molina Block. Rushin stated that he has been given authority to choose a vendor for the project. A meeting was scheduled for the following day. The timeline for completion will be determined following the meeting.
- Report of Agriculture History Museum:
  - Bruce Gwynn explained next steps involving comment/direction from a committee of RCC and YCHS Board members. Committee to be established.
  - Requests for proposals will be sent to exhibition design/build companies.
- 2% Hospitality Tax:
  - Information regarding Proposition 417 was distributed. Tom Rushin explained how funds support the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area, which in turn supports Sanguinetti/Molina projects. Rushin encouraged people to share information and encourage others to vote Yes on Prop 417.
- Christmas in Old Town Yuma:
  - Tiffany Ott described progress made to-date on coordination of this first-ever event with the City of Yuma. The event was described as a holiday street fair. Santa will be rescued from the top of the Yuma Art Center and driven to the Molina Block. Festivities will be on Main Street and Madison Avenue. Santa will be located at the Molina Block. Tiffany thanked Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson for her work securing participating vendors. An overview of activities planned was presented. Tiffany encouraged Board members to participate in the event.

**Director's Remarks:**

- Yanna Kruse shared highlights from summer months involving special projects and museum maintenance. This was the first summer open in the past nine years. Information about the *History Mysteries of Yuma Project* was distributed. Kruse stated that there has been steady interest from the public to host events at the Sanguinetti House Museum. The partnership with Visit Yuma to host "History Under the Stars Dinners" will continue into 2023.

**Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area Update - None**

**Adjournment: 7:01pm**