

**Notice of Public Meeting of
the Board of Directors of the
Arizona Historical Society**

May 26, 2023

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

Pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Arizona Historical Society and to the general public that the State Board of Directors of the Arizona Historical Society will hold a regularly scheduled meeting, open to the public, on **Friday, May 26 at 12:00 p.m.**

Note: This meeting will be held virtually. Board Members and members of the public interested in participating virtually must register in advance of the meeting. To register click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsduGgrz4sHNBAjlikS-ge-VOfsROofPRU>

You will receive a confirmation email with the meeting link. The meeting will be activated five minutes prior to the 12:00 p.m. start time.

Agenda

1. **Call to Order** – President Linda Whitaker
2. **Roll Call** – Colleen Byron
3. **Minutes** - Discussion and action to approve the draft Minutes of the March 31, 2022 State Board meeting.
4. **Call to the Public** – Consideration and discussion of comments from the public. Members of the public wishing to address the Committee 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 Committee but may be directed to Staff for study and consideration at a later date.
5. **Board Update** – Linda Whitaker and David Breeckner
 - a. Ileen Snoddy has submitted her Letter of Resignation from the AHS State Board, effective May 4, 2023. Robert Ballard has agreed to serve as Vice President in the interim and through AHS' Election of Officers in September 2023.
 - b. Eric Flohr (Southern Chapter applicant) and Austin Kerr (Coconino applicant) continue to be advanced through the system. Boards & Commissions hopes to appoint them by

early June.

6. **Committee Report:** Finance Committee – Gene Kunde and David Breeckner
 - a. FY24 draft budget – see attached.
 - **Action Item** to approve the submitted FY24 (revised) draft budget.
 - b. A “real cost” FY25 draft budget is being reviewed by the Finance Committee; it includes a \$1.45m appropriations request. This is scheduled to be discussed with Governor Hobbs’ team on 5/31/23. The resulting draft budget will be reviewed by the Finance and Executive Committees in June, with recommendations for action for a Board vote in July.
7. **Committee Reports:** Collections Review Committee – Greg Scott and Rebekah Tabah
 - a. No accessions/de-accessions for approval.
 - b. CRC will be updating its procedures to streamline and simplify the signature process on approved de-accessions.
8. **Committee Reports:** Outreach Committee – Sherry Rampy
 - a. CHI membership – Next meeting, will vote to add “Provincial status” category to CHI membership. Open to qualifying CHI applicants who submit after close of January application cycle; would grant access to services and communications, but not grants.
 - b. CHI grants – Applications open: 6/1/23; applications close: 7/15/23. Outreach Committee to vote in August, with preliminary online Board vote before month’s end and ratification at September Board meeting. Notices and checks issued in October.
 - c. Al Merito Awards – Nominations open: 5/15/23; nominations close: 6/15/23. Outreach Committee to vote in July; State Board to review action item at July meeting.
 - d. Annual Meeting – hybrid meeting at AHC Tempe on Friday, 9/29/23.
9. **Nominating Committee** – Linda Whitaker
 - a. Robert Ballard has agreed to serve as Committee Chair. He will recruit 2 Board members to assist him.
10. **Director’s Update** – David Breeckner
 - a. Programs & Initiatives Schedule
 - Additional support and time is required to ensure completion of existing obligations and to plan/prioritize next steps. To include: financial controls (sub-funds, codes), policy documents/staff practices & procedures, archives digitization contracts, accessioning/management of existing collections, rental bookings, gift shop redesign, grants reconciliation, properties assessment & management, staff vacancies.
 - Duration: 6 months (July-December 2024); development of new projects paused.

b. Staffing

- Flagstaff: Updates to be shared.
 - Education and other support staff have dates scheduled to open Flagstaff to the public across the summer weekends. Scheduled dates are: 6/1-4, 6/6-10, 6/13-15, 6/19-21, 6/24, 6/26-6/29, 7/13-15, 7/27-29.
- Yuma: Updates to be shared.
- The Vice President of Marketing & Communications position has been posted. Click [here](#) to see the listing. 20 applicants to-date.
- Interviews completed for AA3 Tempe position; offer pending. This position supports Front Desk, as well as Education, Membership, and Public Events.

c. Facilities

- Sosa Carrillo House
 - Escrow has closed on SCH and all respective sale proceeds deposited into AHS Investment Fund: restricted accounts.
- Yuma Campus
 - AHS is working with YCHS and regional/state partners to stabilize the Molina Block building for its future rehabilitation and use. This is planned through a NEH grant for \$364,400, which was submitted for consideration on 5/17/23. A determination will be made by December 2023, with a start date of March 2024.
 - The Jack B Mellon Mercantile, previously operated as a gift shop by YCHS, will be closing at the end of May. YCHS will return the building back to AHS for its use; AHS plans to purchase the remaining inventory of the store, not to exceed \$10,000. This building will continue to serve as an AHS-operated gift shop, as well as provide space for staff offices and educational content/engagement.

d. Exhibits

- Molina Block – Solicitations to Design-Build firms were sent at the end of April, with an anticipated close of submitted bids by the end of June. YCHS has received \$400,000 of the \$800,000 gift, to be applied to Phase 1 (Design). The donor has pledged to provide the remaining balance ahead of the start of Phase 2 (Build).
- Sanguinetti House – updates to its Master Bedroom and front retail area are being planned.

11. Strategic Plan – David Breeckner

- This document is an interim update to the FY21-26 Strategic Plan currently in use. It provides revised overarching goals and individual efforts to grow/improve agency operations through FY26 (June 2026).
- It was prepared from October 2022 through May 2023 over three iterations of

review: Director-level, Small Committee of Board + staff, and Full Board/staff with solicited responses from Chapters and Support Groups.

- Goals:
 - Make AHS the most trusted authority on Arizona history.
 - Enhance AHS' capacity to collect, preserve, interpret, and disseminate Arizona's history.
 - Develop experiences that are meaningful and relevant to today's audiences.
 - Establish AHS as a strong, recognizable brand.
 - Enhance financial resources to advance AHS' mission and ensure long-term sustainability and growth.
 - Cultivate key partnerships across Arizona and beyond.
- Section 5: Specific Objects (pages 14-48) serves as an internal tracking document to help maintain future compliance; this section details individual/group assignments and roles to complete agency-wide objectives. Board members are asked to review the "Person(s)" column in Section 5 carefully to understand their collective, agreed-to roles.
 - Deborah: please review Goal 5: Strategy 2 (pg 38) to see if it answers your questions on initiatives to increase revenue.
 - Goal 5, Strategy 4 previously described the Capital Campaign. It has been updated to reflect current capital initiatives (AHC Tempe annex; AHM Tucson museum).
- This finalized copy is provided to the State Board for its review and suggested amendments; Action Item with requested vote is planned at its July 28, 2023 meeting.

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

13. **Adjournment** – Linda Whitaker

Dated this 23rd day of May 2023.

Arizona Historical Society



Linda Whitaker, Board President

The Arizona Historical Society does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the administration of its program and services as prescribed by Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter or alternative formats, by contacting AHS Administration at 520-617-1169. Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange for the accommodation.

Executive Committee Schedule: Noon and Virtual unless announced otherwise

Click the date to register for the meeting
All meetings are hosted are live-streamed via Zoom

[June 26, 2023](#)

[July 24, 2023](#)

[August 28, 2023](#)

[September 25, 2023](#)

[October 23, 2023](#)

[November 27, 2023](#)

[December 25, 2023](#) *Tentative

Upcoming AHS Board Meetings: Noon and Virtual unless announced otherwise

Click the date to register for the meeting
All meetings are hosted are live-streamed via Zoom

[May 26, 2023](#)

[July 28, 2023](#)

[September 29, 2023](#)

[November 24, 2023](#)