



April 28, 2025

Executive Committee

DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

- 1. Call to Order by Kelly Corsette at 12:09 PM**
- 2. Roll Call- Linda Elliott-Nelson**
 - a. Present- Kelly Corsette, Jim Snitzer, Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson**
 - b. Robert Ballard, Desirae Barquin, DeNise Bauer, Bruce Gwynn**
 - c. Staff- Dr. David Breeckner, Sebastian Alt, Vince Bradley, David Nagelski, KD Forgia, Dr. Rebekah Tabah-Percival**
 - i. NO QUORUM ESTABLISHED- No actions were taken; the meeting is informative only.**
- 3. Minutes - Discussion and action, if any, to approve the draft minutes of the [February 24, 2025, meeting](#). (No quorum established.)**
- 4. Call to the Public- Kelly Corsette**
 - a. No members of the public were present.
- 5. State & Federal Updates – Dr. David Breeckner reported on the following**
 - a. No changes to Arizona Legislative bills (SB-1017, SB-1459, HB-2339) – did not advance.
 - There is still the possibility of Pioneer funding via a “Member-driven budget” from Sen. Rogers, during budget negotiations. If successful, this would appear in the JLBC-released draft budget (estimated May).
 - b. Estimated \$7.76m loss in annual funding to Arizona museums and libraries from cancellation of IMLS and NEH grants.
 - Sub-grants from the likes of AZ Humanities have been cancelled
 - Arizona has joined a multi-state lawsuit over the shuttering of IMLS.
 - ~\$213,000 in cancelled grant applications by AHS
 - c. AHS has started conversations with the Secretary of State’s Office (State Library & Archives), State Parks (SHPO), and Prescott Historical Society to explore and plan around federal impacts to Arizona.

There were some discussions regarding potential long-term commitment for funding for staff at the Pioneer Museum.

6. AHS Financial Update - David Nagelski

- a. David Nagelski reported that AHS is running according to plan. Certain revenue areas are running a little light. More areas will be coming up on repair and maintenance.
 - i. Revenue, Expenditures, YTD – 3/4 completed
 - ii. Revenue: \$2,864,864.23 (planned \$4,347,800)
 - iii. Expenditures: \$3,112,966.39 (planned \$4,557,129)
 - 1. Still undergoing negotiation within the House and Senate; draft publication anticipated in May 2025.
- b. FY26 budget
 - i. Still undergoing negotiation within the House and Senate; draft publication anticipated in May 2025.
- c. FY27 budget
 - i. Sebastian Alt and David Nagelski are updating FY27 draft budget to reflect FY25 actuals; barring changes in response to the FY26 budget (once released), this should provide a draft copy for the next Finance Committee meeting in May 2025.
 - ii. Draft copy anticipated for the Executive Committee's review in June 2025.

7. Director's Updates - David Breeckner

- a. 3 new staff in April: Kiel Posner (AHC Preparator), Kennedy Mesenbrink (AHC Registrar), Melissa Baskin (AHC Registrar)
- b. 2025 Employee Engagement Survey now live from April 14 – 25, 2025. Results will follow.
- c. AHC Tempe scheduled for facility shutdown for HVAC repairs from May 5 – 24, 2025. Social media posts and signage have been sent out with this information.
- d. Met with the University of Arizona in April 2025 to discuss AHM's 99-year lease and the new museum efforts; currently awaiting follow-up conversations.
- e. AHS participated as an exhibitor at Arizona's America250 celebration on April 18, 2025 – "Two Lights for Tomorrow". AHS had a booth and had several people stop by.

8. Announcements and considerations in future board or committee meetings.

- a. AHS had a Clements Center Symposium event on April 26, 2025. There were over 200 registrants. This event was warmly received.
- b. Staff is in early talks with a television production crew that has shown interest in filming at one of the AHS museums.
- c. Next week Dr. Breeckner will be attending the American Alliance of Museums conference in LA.
- d. Kelly Corsette commended Dr. Breeckner and the AHS team on their activities at America250 event that he attended.

- e. Kelly Corsette announced that the next state board meeting will take place on May 30, 2025. The next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2025.

9. Adjournment by Kelly Corsette at 12:30 PM

Arizona Historical Society State Board of Directors
Kelly Corsette, Executive Committee Chair

DATE: April 28, 2025

Executive Committee Meeting Schedule

Noon and virtual unless announced otherwise

January 27, 2025	July 28, 2025
February 24, 2025	August 25, 2025
March 31, 2025	September 29, 2025
April 28, 2025	October 27, 2025
May 27, 2025	November 24, 2025
June 30, 2025	December 29, 2025