

**The Arizona Historical Society
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 28, 2011
Yuma, Arizona**

(Some members participated by telephone.)

Present

Frank Barrios, Vice-president
Marsha Bonham
Craig Colvin
Ted Cunningham
Jack Donnelly
Art Fox
Lynn Haak
George Hartz (telephone)
Mark Haynes
Hal Herbert
Axel Holm
John Lacy
Mary Parker
Bill Porter
Don Prior
Cynthia Schroeder, Treasurer
Greg Scott
Richard Shaw
Michael Urman
Michael Wade, President

Staff

Anne Woosley, Executive Director
Bill Ponder, Chief Administrative Officer
Carol Brooks, AHS-Rio Colorado Curator
Roy Goodman, Membership Coordinator
Kyle McKoy, AHS-Central Div. Dir.
Deborah Ortiz, Executive Assistant
Les Roe, AHS-Northern Division Director
Peter Welsh, AHS-Central Division Director

Absent

Jim Babbitt
Chris Carroll
John Driggs
Emily Duwell
Julie Larson, Secretary
Pat Loven
Colleen Mathis
Susan Olberding

1 **Call to Order**

2
3 President Wade called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

4
5 **Roll Call**

6
7 Roll was taken and Wade declared a quorum present.

8
9 **Approval of Minutes**

10
11 **Porter moved to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2011, Board of Directors meeting as**
12 **presented. Shaw seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

13
14 **Call to the Public**

15
16 Wade made a call to the public. None were heard.

17
18 **President’s Report**

19
20 Wade moved Item F forward in the meeting. Hartz said the Development committee had been
21 meeting to discuss a fundraising initiative to bring in legacy dollars and large donations and to
22 consider a recipient for these funds. It was determined that an independent, statewide 501 (c)(3)
23 would be best to serve this purpose. He said the committee recommends the board to consider
24 the appropriate steps to establish a 501 (c)(3). **Lacy moved that Wade create a committee to**
25 **develop new bylaws to establish a 501 (c)(3), as an arm of this board, to be presented to the**
26 **board for consideration. Porter seconded.** Shaw said it should have AHS in its name to
27 maintain the connection. There was discussion. Porter said donations could be designated for a
28 specific program or museum. **Motion passed unanimously.**

29
30 **Discussion and/or Action Items**

31
32 **Item A pertaining to Nominations:** Discussion and action, if any, regarding the appointment of
33 Emily Düwel from Pinal County to the AHS Board; Schroeder said the chapter board put
34 forward Düwel’s name to serve on the board. She said Bonnie Henry was put forward to
35 represent Navajo County but this appointment is pending. **Porter moved to ratify the**
36 **appointment of Emily Düwel representing Pinal County. Barrios seconded. Motion passed**
37 **unanimously.**

38
39 **Item B pertaining to Operations:** Discussion and action, if any, regarding a staff
40 proposal to use a flat \$5 admission fee for the Pioneer Museum in Flagstaff; **Porter moved to**
41 **approve the admission change for the Pioneer Museum to a flat \$5. Schroeder seconded.**
42 **Motion passed unanimously.**

43
44 **Item C pertaining to Exhibits & Education:** Discussion and action, if any, on whether AHS
45 should have a booth and/or exhibit at the Arizona State Fair; Wade spoke with Larson about
46 exploring this event held October 14-November 6, which could offer AHS considerable
47 exposure. He said the Central Chapter board and Historical League would coordinate the

48 planning. Colvin noted the Rio Colorado Chapter board was having a booth at Yuma County
49 Fair.

50

51 **Item D pertaining to Membership information:** Discussion and action, if any on
52 whether the staff should maintain membership information by county; Wade said the question is
53 does the board want to make tracking members by county part of maintaining membership.
54 Porter supported the idea as a step toward finding a way to draw all counties into a chapter.
55 There was discussion about the potential burden placed on staff. Wade said county information
56 is an important step and goes hand-in-hand with basic organization, the establishment of
57 additional chapters, or bringing more prominence for the certified. He stated that if the motion
58 is approved, staff would regard this as a project to be performed as needed. There was
59 discussion. **Porter moved that the board be provided a membership report by county twice**
60 **a year, for June 30 and December 31. Barrios seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

61

62 **Item E pertaining to an E-newsletter:** Discussion and action, if any, on whether the
63 AHS should initiate an e-newsletter for AHS members; Holm said the e-newsletter would offer
64 something more for members. He distributed a sample copy of *The Arizonan*, a draft e-newsletter
65 that he and Parker have been working on. Holm reviewed the criteria: no staff would be
66 involved at all; no cost to AHS; electronic only; black and white; named after the first newspaper
67 in Arizona; sent monthly; mostly history content; including a calendar of events. He invited
68 suggestions from the board. There could be a series of different columns such as one for each
69 chapter, the certified, the library, and tour of Arizona. Barrios recommended that someone from
70 each chapter be designated to provide Holm with material and images. He would also like to see
71 a printed newsletter if the e-newsletter is going well. There was discussion. Shaw encouraged
72 that certified be included and suggested a letter to the editor section. Schroeder likes the idea
73 but noted it would be difficult to run a newsletter only with volunteers because of continuity.
74 Lacy said an e-newsletter is a good idea but he is concerned about copyright issues and staff
75 time. There was discussion about having a final vetting, perhaps by Bruce Dinges, to ensure no
76 copyright infringement. Lacy suggested getting Dinges' input. **Porter requested the e-**
77 **newsletter be referred to the Publications committee for review. Herbert seconded. The**
78 **board agreed unanimously.**

79

80 **Item F pertaining to Development:** Discussion and action, if any, on whether the AHS
81 should create a new 501 (c)(3) entity to provide statewide support to AHS as a prerequisite to
82 any large scale Legacy Giving and Major Donor fundraising campaigns was discussed earlier
83 under the President's report.

84

85 **Item G pertaining to Publications and Development:** Discussion and action, if any, on
86 whether AHS should develop a process to sell articles from *The Journal of Arizona*
87 *History* via Kindle, Nook, and/or similar electronic publishers; Lacy said J-Store publishes
88 *Arizona and the West* on-line, which is made available to researchers and offers a full text
89 retrieval system. He indicated that *Arizona and the West* has received significant royalties and
90 that this matter is under study.

91

92 **Item H pertaining to Membership and Development:** Discussion and action, if any, on
93 whether Groupon and/or an equivalent organization should be used to offer a discounted

94 AHS membership and/or a discounted museum admission; Porter said staff provided the
95 committee with information on the status of the possibility for AHS to use Groupon. He
96 suggested the initial test be reduced admission for the Museum at Papago Park and that patrons
97 would receive a promotional membership packet when they visit the museum. Porter remarked
98 that two additional vendors had been contacted but were not interested. Staff will work with
99 Groupon and the Attorney General's office on an agreement. In response to a question, Porter
100 noted the board would be given the two options of considering whether to give a discount on
101 admission or on AHS membership. **Porter moved to authorize staff to proceed with creating
102 a legal agreement acceptable with both the Attorney General and Groupon to offer
103 admission discounts to the Museum at Papago Park. Shaw seconded.** There was
104 discussion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

105 106 **Executive Director's Report**

107
108 Woosley said that in concert with the Governor's office, it was decided to close the Mining and
109 Mineral Museum on April 30, one month early. Additional time is needed to begin architectural
110 renovations and exhibit design for the Arizona Experience museum. She noted there has been
111 adverse criticism of AHS and toward herself with some of the commentary being threatening.
112 Barrios commented that Woosley was recently on the Verizon show and that she did an excellent
113 job talking about the new museum. Woosley said there has been good response from potential
114 sponsors and universities for providing content for today's industries and emerging technologies.

115
116 Staff is working with Buzzmouth to develop a new AHS website that will offer more public
117 visibility, accommodate newsletters, and offer membership renewals and donations on-line. She
118 recognized the Southern Chapter board for their support of this project.

119
120 Caborca is looking to AHS to return the baptismal font to its original mission. Dr. Ed Williams,
121 retired UA professor involved in the Sister City Program for Prescott and Caborca, has been
122 selected as liaison with AHS and the museum in Caborca. She said the Murphy Family
123 purchased the font legally and later donated it to AHS, which means the objects belong to the
124 State of Arizona. Woosley said the font could be loaned to Caborca through an agreement with
125 INAH (Instituto Nacional de Antropologia e Historia). Scott shared that the font would go to a
126 museum on the plaza that is a modern facility. The font has emotional and historic meaning to
127 Caborca. Many board members expressed support of a loan. There was discussion about policy
128 considerations and deaccessioning. Woosley will meet with representatives from Caborca in
129 May. There was discussion. Scott said the loan could create a positive relationship with
130 Caborca.

131 132 **Committee Reports**

133
134 Awards and Recognition - Lacy said the recipient of the *Al Merito* Award is not aware that he
135 has been selected. Elisabeth Ruffner will make the presentation at the awards luncheon during
136 the Arizona History Convention.

137
138 Collections – No report.

139

140 Community Outreach – Cunningham said the recertification form has been sent to all certified
141 with reminders sent to those who have not responded. Applications for the upcoming grant cycle
142 have also been mailed to the certified. He would like to see more resources offered to the
143 certified. Lacy offered that educational opportunities for the certified could be tied to the
144 professional presentations made before the Arizona History Convention. This will be
145 coordinated for the 2012 convention.

146
147 Development – The report was heard under the President’s report.

148
149 Executive/Personnel – No report.

150
151 Exhibits & Education – No report.

152
153 Finance – Schroeder reviewed the financial reports for month ending March 2011.

154
155 Governance & Policy – No report.

156
157 International Affairs – No report.

158
159 Legislative Affairs – No report.

160
161 Membership – The report was heard under Item D.

162
163 Nominating – The report was heard under Item A.

164
165 Property & Building Maintenance – Urman said AHS owns the Charles O. Brown House, one of
166 the oldest buildings in Tucson. Since the early 1990s, the building has been managed through an
167 agreement with El Centro Cultural de Las Americas. El Centro’s oversight responsibilities
168 include maintenance, grant writing in support of the house, keeping the facility open to the
169 public, renting the additional spaces, and hosting events. Urman said the AHS/El Centro
170 relationship worked fairly well until early 2000. Now, however, the house is in need of
171 emergency repairs. He said eighteen months ago, AHS requested \$18,000 of historical
172 preservation funding from the City of Tucson to repair a wall.

173
174 Currently, the only paying tenant is Borderlands Theater group; the condition of the building is
175 not good; and the facility is not being made available to the public. El Centro has been in conflict
176 with a tenant regarding a rental agreement and nor has the organization lived up to its agreement
177 with AHS in recent years. He said action must be taken to remove El Centro oversight of the
178 facility. The issue becomes then how best to oversee the facility.

179
180 Urman reported a number of for-profit and non-profit entities could move into the building under
181 a lease that requires each entity be responsible for the care of its space, and paying rent based on
182 a percentage of any profits produced. The goal is two fold: AHS does not want another closed
183 building so a combination of 1) businesses that would keep the facility open to the public seven
184 days a week; and 2) generate funding to maintain the building and address any repairs. Urman
185 has secured sufficient entities to move ahead and El Centro no longer has oversight

186 responsibilities. As for the immediate repair needs, Jonthan Mabry, City of Tucson Historic
187 Preservation Officer, is supportive. Mabry offered \$20,000 to assess the building's current
188 condition and to make immediate repairs.

189
190 The City of Tucson will solicit a Request for Proposal this week. Responses are due Friday of
191 next week with a decision made ten days later. Urman said El Centro would be offered
192 continued use of their current office as well as the patio for public programming. He commented
193 that the house is in the heart of Tucson, is on the trolley stop, and visible from the Fox Theater.
194 The entities currently interested in moving into the building know they will be there for a number
195 of years.

196
197 In reference to the Oro Belle Mine, Urman reported that the real estate office in Salt Lake City is
198 sending documents for signature and the property would be sold.

199
200 Publications – No report.

201
202 Ad Hoc Committee for Strategic Planning – Wade said the committee would meet in May.

203 204 **Brief Updates from Chapters**

205
206 AHS-Yuma: Colvin reported that half of their board members recently termed off and that
207 Harriett Pinkster recently passed away. He said recent events at the museum included a
208 presentation by Carol Brooks about Father Kino in Mexico and Mark Haynes was the guest
209 speaker at the Rio Colorado Chapter annual meeting. Colvin said the last Garden talk was
210 attended by 60 people and that the talks would continue through the summer. The annual golf
211 tournament fundraiser is coming up and the chapter board is working hard to keep AHS in front
212 of the public.

213
214 AHS-Tempe: No update.

215
216 AHS-Flagstaff: No update.

217
218 AHS-Tucson: Scott said AHS-Southern staff hosted a volunteer appreciation breakfast this week
219 that also offered the opportunity to say goodbye to some retiring staff and to welcome new staff.
220 He said the Docent Council trip over Cinco de Mayo would be a visit to Mimbres. Scott noted
221 the Southern Chapter board is planning a fundraising event for October 15.

222 223 **Announcements and other Matters for Consideration at Future Board Meetings**

224
225 Next meeting – Board Retreat on June 24-25, 2011 in Thatcher, Arizona.

226
227 Porter said Barrios suggested the new 501 (c)(3) might be a good entity to produce the e-
228 newsletter and to provide underwriters.

229
230

Adjournment

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238

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Signed: _____
Michael Wade, President

Date: _____