

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES
ALBUQUERQUE MUSEUM
October 14, 2014

Present:	Jacobo de la Serna, Chair	Cathy Wright
	Pamela Chavez	Andrew Connors
	Hal Behl	Elizabeth Becker
	Dr. Jerome Goss	Cynthia Garcia
	Kathleen Davison Lebeck	Debra Romero
	Dr. Siu Wong	Julie Gutiérrez
Absent:	Victor Lopez	Deb Slaney
	John Cordova	

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 a.m.

Minutes of the August 12, 2014, Board of Trustees meeting were M/S/P.

Jacobo de la Serna addressed the Board's concerns about the drop in staffing at the Museum over the past few years. Positions have been cut or moved to Cultural Services at City Hall. The Board's strongest tool is to address this in the letter to the Mayor/City and suggest how it has/will impact museum. We need to try and affect this situation as positively and expediently as possible.

Cathy Wright summarized museum staffing over the past 6 years. In FY 2009, there were 36.5 FT positions. Over the past 6 years the equivalent of 8.75 FT positions have been lost; there are currently at 27.75 positions. These losses include a custodian, exhibit preparator, FT and PT clerical office assistants, 2 FT office assistants, 1 FT senior administrative assistant, and an associate curator position assigned to Casa San Ysidro (2009). This results in a 24% loss over a six year period. The museum received Capital Improvement Project coming-on-line funding, which was approved for the current FY 2015 budget, including a part-time contractual IT position and an associate curator position. We were informed that the museum would be receiving a full time technical production specialist position moved from the KiMo theater, and that the associate curator position would be removed from the museum. At the end of this month our accountant is retiring and that position will be moved to City Hall; there will be no accountant on site. That will be the equivalent of 9.75 FT positions (not including getting KiMo position); a 27% loss over six years. During that time, and not counting tours and the museum school, programming increased 51%, and attendance at the programs increased 57%. Exhibition activity has also increased greatly with the opening of the north gallery in 2005, and now two new gallery spaces (changing history exhibits and works on paper). The position at Casa San Ysidro has been temporarily provided by the Foundation; there is no FT city employee at Casa except for a maintenance

person. The Foundation cannot fund a City position; it has to be a temporary position through an agency and temporary positions have limited term lengths.

Further discussion focused on the impact on the Museum. The three positions that were moved did other things for the Museum besides what they are doing at City Hall. The Museum is a small organization and the impact is larger compared to a larger division. Fewer positions lessen the Museum's ability to serve the public. The Foundation is concerned about losing the curator position for the history exhibit after raising more than \$1M and think it will hamper their ability to raise money in the future. The Foundation will address their concerns to the City. The pattern of decreased in staffing questions how we will meet the needs of the future. Reassigning positions doesn't save the City labor costs; centralization is not always more efficient.

Julie Gutierrez discussed the Miniatures & More Collectors Dinner happening on October 24, with special artworks available for purchase that night only. The Miniatures & More event is October 25. The Foundation is planning a number of events for the history exhibit opening, including a Donor/VIP reception Feb. 26. Debra Romero noted that we will be collecting stories in the story booth to populate the exhibit.

Cathy Wright reported on work with the Foundation Government Action Committee in preparation for the legislative session in early 2015, assessing the needs and priorities for capital improvement projects. There was a meeting about Casa San Ysidro with the new Mayor of Corrales, Scott Kominiak. The Village of Corrales does go to state legislature and last year obtained \$100,000 to run the sewer/fire suppression line up Old Church Rd. to Casa, but the Museum would have to pay for the hook up. The 2015 GO Bond election ask for museum for has been cut to \$200,000 for Casa San Ysidro, and is still going through approval process. It is much lower that what we have received in the past, but the first time Casa has been included. History exhibit contractors are arriving and working on the installation. The opening events start February 26, with donor/VIP opening, an opportunity for members to participate prior to the public opening on March 3, a press conference and ribbon cutting, teachers and local museums receptions. We are working on an ad campaign to get the word out and have a fully developed educational program series of events.

Elizabeth Becker reviewed the history exhibit programs. Education is currently working on docent training with a massive redesign of the history program. Training starts in November. Programs for the new history exhibit include lectures, family days, community days/festivals, and informal ways to learn about the exhibit.

Cynthia Garcia reported on the budget process timeline, which begins the end of December/beginning of January with the budget call, what we have to prepare to represent the museum's budget, and how we intend to spend next year. Budget hearings start in early February. The budget is then presented to Council by April 1,

and a series of meetings including public feedback occurs. Council presents their changes by May 31. Capital Improvement Projects coming-on-line changes are usually the only changes that occur. Public input is invited at the Committee of the Whole (COW) meetings. The Board should be active in the process; it's the best way to try to move things forward. The Board will be advised of the public meetings.

Jacobo de la Serna opened nominations for the Board of Trustees officers. No new nominations were made; the slate remains the same as last year. Kathleen Lebeck moved to accept the slate as is; Pamela Chavez seconded. Motion approved. Jacobo de la Serna will serve again as chair, Hal Behl will be Vice President, Siu Wong will be Secretary/Treasurer. The Board looks forward to working with the Foundation to move the Museum forward. The City should hear from Board in December and again in the spring for budget public forums.

Deb Slaney was absent. There has not been a History Advisory Committee meeting since August.

Elizabeth Becker presented the new Lead with the Arts program for high school students. The program received 27 applications and selected 16 students from 10 schools, the biggest program ever. The lead artist will be Cynthia Cook, who uses recycled materials in her work.

Andrew Connors reviewed the August 12 Art Advisory Committee minutes. We have secured significant funding from the Hammersley Foundation for new acquisitions and a gift of works of art. Drawings by Frederick Hammersley will be open in the works on paper gallery soon. Andrew discussed the On the Map citywide project about the arts in Albuquerque, which the museum spearheaded. It includes many arts venues, including performing arts, and two exhibits at the Museum, one on the City and County public art programs, and "Visualizing Albuquerque" organized by the Museum with guest curator Joseph Traugott. The exhibition will be accompanied by a major book on the art history of Albuquerque and the central Rio Grande valley. Many other arts organizations will be collaborating and summarized in a publicity "map" of the organizations and programs. A small group is working to get national publicity for the project. Pamela volunteered to help promote through Don Chalmers dealership.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2014, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.