Tempe

Minutes
Historical Museum Advisory Board
November 6, 2008

Minutes of the Historical Museum Advisory Board held on November 6, 2008, 9:00 a.m., at the Tempe Historical Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, Arizona.

Board Present:
Gail Fisher, Chair
Jean Berry
Anne Chandler
Betty Enz
Dan Killoren
Robert McKinley
Lisa Roach, Vice Chair
Board Absent:
Frank Schmuck
City Staff Present:
Adrienne Richwine, Deputy Community Services Manager, Cultural Services
Amy Douglass, Museum Administrator
Jerri Copenhaver, Administrative Assistant
Guest Present:
Victor Linoff

Meeting convened at 9:05 a.m.
Chair Gail Fisher called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes: October 2, 2008
MOTION: Betty Enz moved to approve the minutes of October 2, 2008.
SECOND: Lisa Roach
DECISION: Carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Communications
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** reported that former **Tempe Historical Society** Board member and museum docent, **Bill Wallace**, was inducted into the **Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame** at a luncheon on October 24.
- **Chair Gail Fisher** announced that the bond, which will help pay for the museum renovation, was approved by the voters.
- **Dr. Douglass** said there is a new ordinance that brings all boards and commissions to a consistent term date. As terms expire, they will all be adjusted to expire on December 31. She went on to explain how that would impact the terms of the Board members.
- **Ms. Fisher** said tickets are still available for the **House of Tricks'** event, "Wine Fiesta XVII," on November 9. Proceeds will benefit the **Tempe Historical Society** and the museum.

Agenda Item 3 – Museum Renovation
Dr. Amy Douglass gave an update on the **museum renovation.**
- She said the project is fully funded for $4.1 million, now that the bond has passed.
- **Dr. Douglass** reported that the cost estimate for the renovation, which was presented by the general contractor, showed that the project was significantly over budget.

- As a result of two lengthy meetings between the museum staff, the architect, the exhibit designers, and the general contractor, the budget was whittled down, without having to make significant reductions in the scope of the project.
- **Dr. Douglass** explained some of the ways the renovation project costs have been reduced.

Agenda Item 4 – Museum "Tag Line"

Dr. Amy Douglass reported that the museum staff is refining some **tag line** concepts. These should be ready for the Board to see in the next couple of months.

- **Dan Miller,** the museum's Exhibits Coordinator, is working on designing a new logo.

Agenda Item 5 – Lecture and Book Signing

Dr. Amy Douglass offered the Board three seats for the fundraising **lecture and book signing** on November 7.

- She said the City bought a table for the event and a couple of people are unable to attend.

Agenda Item 6 – Committee Assignments

Chair Gail Fisher said a representative is still needed for the Diversity Awareness Committee.

- **Dan Killoren** volunteered to be the representative.

Agenda Item 7 – Board Standing Committee and Representative Reports

7A Petersen House Endowment Committee

Jean Berry showed the Danish "papir klip" (cut paper) ornaments that will be sold at the **Petersen House** Danish Christmas event, to raise funds for the **Petersen House Endowment**.

- **Ms. Berry** also distributed brochures about the Danish Christmas event, which will feature the fairy tales written by Hans Christian Andersen.
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** reported that as of October 31, the endowment fund assets were $93,875. Of that amount, $14,294 was interest that may be spent for educational programming.

7B Public Programs Representative

Lisa Roach said the **Public Programs Committee** met on November 4.

- She said they discussed program ideas, scheduling of events, and creative titles and descriptions.
- **Ms. Roach** said they are trying to better define the programs and their target audience.
- She said a year-long calendar template is being used to schedule the programs.
- She distributed flyers for the upcoming "Third Thirstday Night Café" programs and circulated an *Arizona Republic* article about the Tempe Historical Society lunch talk on November 12.

7C Policy, Procedures and Accessions Representative

Anne Chandler read a report listing the provisional deposits and accessions for October.

- There are currently 8 provisional deposits. One new provisional deposit was received.
- Eight new acquisitions were approved for the permanent collection.

7D Historic Preservation Representative

Dan Killoren reported that the **Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** met on October 9.

- He said they discussed the memo about City Council Committees and selected liaisons to attend the meetings of various committees.
- **Mr. Killoren** said the National Register nomination to make the **Roosevelt Addition** a historic district has been completed.
- The **HPC** also learned that the City denied a request for a permit to erect a cell phone tower on the property of the **Tempe Women's Club**.
- The agenda for the **HPC's** meeting on November 13 includes an update on the **Hayden Flour Mill** and information about individual homeowner applications for historic designation.

7E Tempe Historical Society Representative

Betty Enz reported on the **Tempe Historical Society's (THS)** recent and upcoming activities.

- She reminded the Board about the fundraising luncheon on November 7, which features a

lecture and book signing by the author of the book, *From Baghdad With Love*.

- **Ms. Enz** said the next **THS** Lunch Talk, on November 12, would feature Chautauquan **Elena Diaz Bjorkquist** as Teresa Urrea. She said October's talk was well attended.
- She also distributed forms for the "Larry Campbell Tree of Lights" fundraiser, which benefits the museum's oral history program.

7F Diversity Awareness Representative

Dr. Amy Douglass reported on the Muslim Advisory Committee and the African American Advisory Committee.

- She said the *Jewel in the Desert* reception on October 3 and festival on October 4 were very successful. There was a lot of positive feedback about the exhibit.
- Members of the Muslim Advisory Committee have been invited to present a smaller version of the *Jewel in the Desert* exhibit at a conference in Philadelphia.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the African American Advisory Committee has met three times. They have decided that their first project will be to focus on gathering oral histories.
- A small display about the African American Advisory Committee will be placed in the window of one of the vacant Mill Avenue storefronts to promote the project.

7G Oral History Representative

Lisa Roach reported that the **Oral History Committee** met on October 14.

- She said the committee continued to discuss potential interview questions.
- **Ms. Roach** said they also plan to ask each oral history candidate to supply three items of information about their interests and background that should be part of the interview.
- She said that she and **Robert McKinley** attended an oral history training on October 11.
- **Mr. McKinley** reported that he has been working on the computerized oral history database with **James Burns**, the museum's Curator of History, to make it easier to use.

Agenda Item 8 – Board Announcements

- **Lisa Roach** announced that oral histories would be included as one of the workshop topics at the City's **Neighborhood Workshop** on April 18, 2009.

Agenda Item 9 – Future Agenda Items

There were no future agenda items.

The Board's next meeting will be December 4, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Prepared by: Jerri Copenhaver

Gail Fisher

Gail Fisher
Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board