

Minutes Historical Museum Advisory Board January 7, 2010

Minutes of the Historical Museum Advisory Board held on January 7, 2010, 9:00 a.m., at the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, Arizona.

Board Present:

Lisa Roach, Chair
Anne Chandler
Betty Enz
Dan Killoren, Vice Chair
Shirley McKean
Robert McKinley

Board Absent:

Julie Syrmopoulos

City Staff Present:

Kathy Berzins, Interim Community Services Manager
Adrienne Richwine, Deputy Community Services Manager, Library and Cultural Services
Amy Douglass, Museum Administrator
Jerri Copenhaver, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present:

Amy Heisler, Director of Communications, Metro Phoenix Partnership for Arts and Culture
Victor Linoff

Meeting convened at 9:03 a.m.

Chair Lisa Roach called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes for December 3, 2009

MOTION: Betty Enz moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 2009.

SECOND: Dan Killoren

DECISION: Carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Communications

- **Chair Lisa Roach** welcomed a new Advisory Board member, **Shirley McKean**.
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** circulated two recent newspaper articles. Both were from the *Tempe Republic*. One was about the Petersen House Danish Christmas and the other was about the Tree of Lights.

Agenda Item 3 – Economic Impact of the Arts and Culture – Amy Heisler, MPAC

Chair Lisa Roach introduced **Amy Heisler**, Director of Communications for **Metro Phoenix Partnership for Arts and Culture (MPAC)**.

- **Ms. Heisler** gave a PowerPoint presentation that explained the history and goals of **MPAC**.
- **MPAC**, a non-profit organization, was founded in 2004. Its mission is to promote a vibrant creative community as a critical partner in the economic vitality of the greater Phoenix area.
- **MPAC** focuses on three main areas: arts and culture as an economic driver; regional

distinction; and funding and support for arts and culture.

- **Ms. Heisler** explained some of the research that has been funded by **MPAC** to raise awareness of the vital role that arts and culture plays in the metropolitan Phoenix area.
- She also explained that a plan is underway to place an initiative on the November 2010 ballot that would provide for a one tenth of one percent sales tax increase to fund arts and culture in Arizona.
- **Ms. Heisler** answered questions and distributed information about **MPAC**.

Agenda Item 4 – Renovation Project

Dr. Amy Douglass reported on the progress of the museum **renovation project**.

- She said the construction phase is complete and the Certificate of Occupancy has been received, allowing the staff to begin working in the renovated space.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the staff is working to move things back into the space. The research library and archive reading room have already been moved.
- She said the main focus now is to get the new exhibits installed and the museum store and the lobby ready.

Agenda Item 5 – Reopening Event Planning

Dr. Amy Douglass reported that the joint committee that is planning the **reopening events** met on January 5.

- She listed the donations that are being made for the evening reception on February 26.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the program will begin at 6:00 p.m. and last for about twenty minutes. Following that, there will be live music and living history characters will be present.
- She distributed a list of tentative groups and entertainment for the public **reopening event** on February 27. The ribbon cutting will be at 10 a.m. and the event will last until 2 p.m.
- **Chair Lisa Roach** circulated a flyer that was sent to the Tempe elementary schools to promote an essay contest that is being held in conjunction with the **reopening**.
- She said the Mayor will award prizes to the essay contest winners at the **reopening event**.
- **Dr. Douglass** reported that **Ms. Roach** is providing the essay contest prizes.

Agenda Item 6 – Budget – Kathy Berzins, Community Services Interim Manager

Kathy Berzins, Community Services Interim Manager, reported on the City's estimated \$22.4 million **budget** deficit.

- She said each of the City departments had to submit proposals for cutting their budgets to the City Manager's office by December 31.
- **Ms. Berzins** said the Community Services Department was asked to cut their budget by \$1.9 million by eliminating staff, reducing supply budgets, or increasing revenue.
- She said the City Manager will compile all the reports and present them to the City Council on February 4. After that, the City Manager will conduct employee forums and community forums in February to discuss the proposals.
- **Ms. Berzins** said the City Council will vote on the budget on March 4.
- She said the museum will have no cuts to its supply accounts, but two staff positions are being recommended for elimination: the vacant Museum Registrar position and the Administrative Assistant position that is currently occupied by **Jerri Copenhaver**.
- **Ms. Berzins** discussed some of the ways that the proposed cuts would impact the museum and some ways that they plan to handle them.
- The Board asked several questions and a lengthy discussion followed. They agreed that there is still time to work on the letter that they have been planning to send to the Mayor and City Council.

Agenda Item 7 – Fundraising

The Board talked about ideas for **raising funds** for the museum.

- **Chair Lisa Roach** said she talked to the president of the **Tempe Historical Society** about some **fundraising** ideas.
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** said the revenue from the new museum store would go into the City's general fund, but the revenue still can be shown as a cost offset.

- She and **Kathy Berzins** both indicated that there has been a lot of interest from people who would like to rent the museum's new community room.

Agenda Item 8 – Board Standing Committee and Representative Reports

8A Petersen House Endowment Committee

There was no report. A new representative is needed for the committee.

8B Public Programs Representative

Chair **Lisa Roach** said the **Public Programs Committee** has not met.

8C Policy, Procedures and Accessions Representative

Anne Chandler read the **Policy, Procedures and Accessions Committee** report for December.

- The museum has been taking in loans of paintings for the upcoming **Tom Harter** art exhibit.
- There were four new provisional deposits, making a total of eight provisional deposits. There were seven new incoming loans and no new accessions.

8D Historic Preservation Representative

Dan Killoren read the agenda for the **Historic Preservation Commission's (HPC)** upcoming meeting on January 14.

- He indicated that the Mayor would be attending that meeting.
- **Mr. Killoren** said the **HPC** has hired two interns. One is conducting a survey of pre-1941 houses in Tempe. The other is working on a National Register nomination for **Tempe Butte**.

8E Tempe Historical Society Representative

Betty Enz reported on the activities of the **Tempe Historical Society (THS)**.

- She said the reception for the *Larry Campbell Tree of Lights* took place on December 13 and was very successful.
- **Ms. Enz** reported that the next **THS** Lunch Talk will be on January 13, with **Jay Mark** presenting, *Marked Men: Tempe on the Big Screen*.
- She said she will encourage the **THS** Board to come up with new fundraising ideas that will help support the museum.

8F Diversity Awareness Representative

Dr. Amy Douglass said the **African American Advisory Committee** had a potluck lunch in December in place of their regular meeting.

- She said they would be meeting again on January 8.

8G Oral History Representative

Robert McKinley read the **Oral History** report for December.

- He said the **Oral History Committee** has decided to start meeting bi-monthly. The next meeting will be on January 12.
- There are still 210 people on the **oral history** interview list; 51 of those are on the high priority list.
- An **oral history** workshop, to train new interviewers, will be held in January.

Agenda Item 9 – Board Announcements

There were no board announcements.

Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items

- Elect a new Vice Chair.

The Board's next meeting will be February 4, 2010.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Prepared by: Jerri Copenhaver

Lisa Roach
Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board