

OHIO HISTORY CONNECTION
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 16, 2021 - 1:00 pm
Ohio History Center
Cardinal Classroom

- Trustees Present:** Tom Chema (President), Charles Moses (Vice President), Jon Elsasser, Alex Hastie, Jen Miller, Robert Roach, Melody Young (Secretary), Ann Bair, Chief Billy Friend
- Trustees Absent:** Bob Lucas (Immediate Past President), Jim Dicke (Vice President), Greg Simpson
- Trustees on Phone:** JB Hadden, Ellen Connally, Suhas Kakde (Treasurer), Guadalupe Velasquez, Betty Weibel (Vice President)
- EX Officios Present:** Laura Battocletti (Director, Capital Square and Review Advisory Board), History), Matthew MacLaren (Designee for Director, Ohio Development Services Agency), Jennifer Brown (Designee for Governor, State of Ohio), Representative Laura Lanese (Designee for Speaker of the House Robert Cupp); Representative Adam Miller (Designee for House Minority Leader Emilia Sykes)
- Ex Officio on Phone:** Sherry Bircherm for Stephanie Siddens (Superintendent for Public Instruction)
- Staff & Others Present:** Jen Aultman, Jen Cassidy, Theresa Hopewood, Todd Kleismit, Stacia Kuceyeski, Burt Logan, Wes Newhouse (General Counsel), Ann Ruege, Fred Smith, Amanda Terrell, Jeff Ward, Megan Wood Jillian Ramage, Chuck Wash, Lauren Barber, Steve George, and Jerry Dannemiller
- Staff Phone in:** Ben Garcia, Alex Wesaw, Elizabeth Woods

I. Call to Order

President Tom Chema called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

He asked for a moment of silence in memory of long-time Ohio History Connection supporter and Trustee Loann Crane who passed away on November 9, 2021.

He announced that Governor DeWine has reappointed the following trustees, each to a term of three years: Robert Roach, Greg Simpson, and Richard Hillis.

Mr. Chema welcomed Jerry Dannemiller, who will become Chief Marketing Officer in January 2022, filling the vacancy left by Jamison Pack's departure.

II. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Logan noted that a summary of the 2nd quarter is located in the board packet.

Mr. Logan announced that \$36.18M in tax credits were awarded on December 14, 2021. He thanked Amanda Terrell and her team for the great job they continue to do, noting it is a non-stop process for that team.

He shared a brochure prepared by Steve George giving an overview of the career and life of President Warren Harding. The brochure was the final one in a series of eight that included all of the other Ohio-born US presidents. He presented an Ohio Presidents mug to Mr. George for his creation of this series of brochures.

Mr. Logan reported that he, Chief Billy Friend, and Alex Wesaw visited the Nez Perce Tribe in November to return \$608,100 from the Ohio History Connection Foundation the Tribe paid to the Ohio History Connection in 1996 for a collection of 20 cultural items held by OHC.

He reminded everyone to "save the date" for March 1, 2022, Statehood Day.

III. Consent Agenda

Mr. Chema entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion was made and seconded. Approval of the consent agenda was granted by a raise of hands.

IV. Strategic Plan

Major Organizational Project – World Heritage Inscription

Jen Aultman, Director of Historic Sites and Museums, reported on the status of the Hopewell Ceremonial Earthworks nomination, and expressed her thanks to a number of internal staff and external partners who have made essential contributions to the nomination process. The nomination dossier has been completed and is at the printers. The dossier will be forward to the World Heritage office in Paris for acceptance, with anticipated review and decision by the World Heritage Committee in Summer 2023.

Major Divisional Project – Art of Soul

Mr. Chema and Mr. Logan recognized Chuck Wash and the National Afro American Museum and Cultural Center team for their Leadership in History award presented by the American Association for State and Local History for NAAMCC's "Queens of the Heartland" exhibit.

Due to time constraints Mr. Chema stated that the update on the "Art of Soul" exhibit would be rescheduled for the March Board meeting.

V. Committee Reports

Collections Committee

On behalf of Chair Ellen Connally, Megan Wood reported the Committee is presenting the following motion:

To approve the increase of death certificate copy fees from \$14 to \$15.05 and public records copy requests fees from \$18 to \$19.05 beginning January 1, 2022.

Finance Committee

Chair Jon Elsasser reported the Finance Committee has reviewed the audited financial statements for the Ohio History Connection and the Ohio History Connection Foundation for FY21. Both audits have been approved by the Auditor of State's Office.

Fundraising Committee

Ms. Ruege shared the committee met and discussed the master plan process and list of key stakeholders. The Dickens Dinner party held on December 11th was a success.

Marketing Committee

Chair Betty Weibel shared that the packet report shows great things throughout the year. The committee is looking forward to continuing our partnership with TourismOhio. Echoes and enews are doing great; there is still lots of work cut out for us. Ohio Open Doors is very important.

PS&L Committee

Chair Jen Miller presented the following motion:

To approve the name change from Campus Martius Museum to Northwest Territory Museum-Campus Martius.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Trusteeship and Governance Committee

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Logan presented the following motion:

To elect Anthony Joseph as a Board-elected trustee for a term of three-years beginning December 16, 2021.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Government Relations Committee

The committee met virtually on December 6, 2021 and discussed the following topics:

- Timing of upcoming FY23/24 capital budget
- America 250 Commission; appointments will be made July 4, 2026
- Statehood Day – Tuesday March 1, 2022
- Grant Bicentennial and Schoenbrunn 250 anniversaries 2022
- The Ohio Holocaust and Genocide Education & Memorial Commission; (OHC trying to assist and get them off the ground)

VI. New Business

There was no new business.

VII. Executive Session

Mr. Chema called the meeting into Executive Session at 2:18 p.m.

The Board emerged from Executive Session at 4:48 pm

VIII. Adjournment

There was no additional business and the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Melody Young, Secretary

Date

Thomas V. Chema, President

Date

Prepared by Theresa Hopewood