



MINUTES: Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, February 8, 2017; 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Great Overland Station, Topeka, KS

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Craig, Chair. Present were Ms. Barker, Mr. Benton, Ms. English, Mr. Fortunato, Mr. Glasscock, Mr. Glenn, Ms. Hunkeler, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Pfautsch, Mr. Smith, Ms. Stroup, Ms. Thellman, Mr. Wagnon, Ms. Woodall, and Mr. Wulf.

Attending via phone were Ms. Buhr, and Ms. Caskey.

Absent were Ms. Barnes, Mr. Crow, Mr. Dillingham, Mr. Ford, Mr. Harris, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Nevius, Mr. Rankin, Brig. Gen. Scott, Ms. Tacha, Mr. Tempel, and Mr. Wood.

Staff members attending included Ms. Hobson, Ms. McPike, Mr. Newhard, Mr. Pickert, Mr. Ogle, and Ms. Smith.

Guests attending included Ms. Bette Allen, Mr. Kerry Altenbernd, Mr. Aaron Barnhart, and Mr. Ed English.

Ms. Allen welcomed attendees to the Great Overland Station.

Chair's Report: Ms. Craig called the meeting to order and reported that the board and staff are reaching out to Missouri Governor Eric Greitens to serve as honorary co-chair of Freedom's Frontier. She also reported on her efforts with staff and reenactors to provide information about Freedom's Frontier to Kansas legislators that morning, and drew attention to the 2016 Annual Report. Mr. Glenn moved to commend the staff of the excellent annual report. Ms. Stroup seconded the motion, which passed.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Glasscock moved to approve the December 2016 minutes. Ms. Hunkeler seconded the motion, which passed.

Financial Report: Mr. Glasscock gave the financial report. He reviewed the year-end financials and noted the need for a correction on line 7201. He moved that the board accept the year-end financials as presented. Ms. Barker seconded the motion, which passed. Mr. Wagnon praised the staff's work for exceeding expectations in restricted projects.

Ms. Craig reminded the board that the 2017 interim budget was approved at the December meeting.

Staff Reports:

Sustainability: Ms. McPike gave an update on efforts to gain support among Freedom's Frontier's Congressional Delegation for level funding for FFY17 and FFY 18, co-sponsors for program legislation in the House, support for program legislation in the Senate. Mr. Glasscock asked

how the Alliance of National Heritage Areas (ANHA) will know what the President's budget will include in the Heritage Partnership Program line item. Ms. McPike responded that the National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) is working with the ANHA to monitor this. She noted that the NPCA also provides support for lobbying efforts and helps the ANHA to develop strategies to raise awareness. She urged board members to consider joining or supporting the NPCA for their efforts on behalf of national heritage areas.

Donor and Grant Identification: Mr. Ogle reported on new efforts to increase investment from private and foundation funders. He shared a new tool staff and the board developed to assist with this end. He also shared the Topeka Gives model, through which the Topeka Community Foundation provides a partial match for each donation made to a nonprofit. Mr. Ogle asked the board to share other such opportunities, if they know of them.

Ms. McPike shared that she is working to search Guidestar for family foundations in the area that may have interest in our work. She noted that she will present one or two foundations at each meeting. She noted the Ball Family Charitable Foundation and the Curry Family Foundation.

Signage: Mr. Pickert provided an update on Missouri boundary signage, noting that he expects those signs to be installed in the late spring. He also noted that the first directional sign is being installed at Island Mound by State Parks. Freedom's Frontier and the City of Butler is asking the Missouri Department of Transportation for consideration for placing signs on state routes within city limits. He also noted that, at the City of Olathe's request, he is scaling back the signage plan for Mahaffie and that he is continuing to work on window clings and partner site signs.

Work Plan Development: Mr. Ogle noted that staff is finalizing goals for 2017. Ms. Craig asked Mr. Ogle to share that document with the board when it is finalized.

Partner Development: Mr. Newhard shared that he is working to create partner processes including defining partnerships, ensuring a minimum level of communication, coordinating the Advisory Committee, identifying potential partners and organizing partner meetings.

Tourism & Marketing: Mr. Ogle asked the board for feedback on the travel information kiosk on display.

Mr. Barnhart presented an update on his work with Quindaro Press to ensure that Freedom's Frontier's partner site database is accurate and complete. The board discussed the current website and potential upgrades, including the Clio app effort.

Mr. Ogle outlined several goals for increasing our efforts in marketing to the audiences defined by the board's marketing committee.

Education & Interpretation: Ms. Hobson noted that the next Interpretive Grant deadline is February 15 and invited the board to participate in the Race Project KC field trip day. She also



provided updates on an AmeriCorps planning grant, the 2018 AASLH Annual Meeting, Youth Camps, including new partner Greenbush, and the Quindaro Oral History event.

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah Barker, Board Secretary

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