AGENDA ITEM 2

DATE 02-21-08

Tempe

Minutes
Historical Museum Advisory Board
January 3, 2008

Minutes of the Historical Museum Advisory Board held on January 3, 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, Vice Chair
Anne Chandler
Marcia Cypert
Betty Enz
Robert McKinley
Lisa Roach
Board Absent:
Dan Killoren
Frank Schmuck
City Staff Present:
Amy Douglass, Museum Administrator
Jerri Copenhaver, Administrative Assistant
Guest Present:
Victor Linoff

Meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.
Chair Gail Fisher called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes: December 6, 2007
MOTION: Marcia Cypert moved to approve the minutes of December 6, 2007.
SECOND: Betty Enz
DECISION: Carried unanimously.

Agenda Item 2 – Communications

- **Chair Gail Fisher** informed the board that **E.J. Tinsley** had passed way in December and his wife, **Virginia Tinsley** passed away on January 2.
- She said both of them had been very active in the community. They were members of the **Tempe Historical Society**, **Mr. Tinsley** had been a docent at the museum and **Mrs. Tinsley** had served on the **Tempe Municipal Arts Commission**, among other things.
- **Dr. Amy Douglass** said that 1091 people attended the Danish Christmas at the **Petersen House** in December, compared to 653 people in December 2006.
- She said the attendance increase could be attributed to very good press coverage, "word of mouth" recommendation, and some radio advertising that was purchased.
- Some of the newspaper articles about the event from the ***Tempe Town News***, the ***Arizona Republic*** and an international Danish newspaper, ***The Danish Pioneer,*** were circulated.
- **Ms.Fisher** suggested using the momentum from this year's successful event to try to get a sponsor for the next Danish Christmas event.
- **Dr. Douglass** reported there had been good participation in the **Tempe Historical Society's** "Larry Campbell Tree of Lights" fundraiser this year, with over $1400 being raised.

- **Ms. Fisher** also reported that she wrote an article, which appeared in the ***Tempe Republic*** about the need to eliminate the graffiti on **Hayden Butte**.

Agenda Item 3 – Museum Renovation

Dr. Amy Douglass said the **museum renovation** steering committee would have an all day meeting with the architects and designers on January 30.

- She said that more refined designs for the renovation will be presented at the meeting.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the museum staff have been communicating with **Gyroscope, Inc.,** the exhibit-design firm that is part of the **museum renovation** team.
- The staff is working on identifying the storyline and artifacts for the main exhibit, and combining the two to make storyboards that will be submitted to **Gyroscope**.
- **Dr. Douglass** also gave an update on the grant applications that have been submitted to the **Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)** and **Gila River Indian Community.**
- She said the museum should learn this month if they will receive the **IMLS** grant, which would be used for an interactive computer component in the exhibit hall.
- **Dr. Douglass** said they would not have an answer on the **Gila River Indian Community** grant, which would fund the children's gallery, until May.
- **Chair Gail Fisher** said a meeting to discuss corporate support for the renovation project would be scheduled, but not until after the steering committee meeting on January 30.

Agenda Item 4 – Museum "Tag Line"

Dr. Amy Douglass reported on the contest to solicit ideas for a new **museum tag line**.

- An entry form for the contest has been placed on the front page of the museum's website. A paper copy of the form has also been designed and placed at the museum's front desk.
- So far three entries have been received. The contest will continue until January 31.
- **Dr. Douglass** said the **tag line** committee would meet in February to review the entries.
- She said the winner would be featured guest at the opening of the newly-renovated museum and they would also receive a "Tempe prize."
- **Dr. Douglass** asked the Board for suggestions on ways to feature the contest winner at the opening or for the prize they should receive.
- The Board offered several suggestions including a **Tempe Historical Society** membership and free passes to **City of Tempe** recreation, such as the wave pool and golfing.

Agenda Item 5 – Board Standing Committee and Representative Reports

5A Petersen House Endowment Committee

Jean Berry reported that $1475 and several "in kind" donations have been received for the **Petersen House Endowment** fundraiser.

- She asked the Board to think about how to utilize the "in kind" donations, so a decision could be made at the next Board meeting.
- The Board suggested holding a raffle for the "in kind" items at one of the upcoming events, possibly the **Hayden's Ferry Questers'** antique seminars.

5B Public Programs Representative

Chair Gail Fisher said the **Public Programs Committee** had not met.

5C Policy, Procedures and Accessions Representative

Anne Chandler read a report listing the provisional deposits, loans and accessions for December.

- There are currently 114 provisional deposits.
- Two new provisional deposits and one incoming loan were received.
- There were 11 new acquisitions approved for the permanent collection.

5D Historic Preservation Representative

Lisa Roach said the **Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** did not meet in December.

- She said the City Council is scheduled to vote on the redevelopment plans for **Monti's La Casa Vieja** on January 10.

5E Tempe Historical Society Representative

Betty Enz talked about the **Tempe Historical Society's (THS)** activities and upcoming programs.

- She said the **THS Board** met at the **Tempe Center for the Arts** in December.
- **Ms. Enz** said the **THS** Speakers' Program on January 9 would feature **Abel Flores** from the **Guadalupe Yaqui Cultural Center** talking about Yaqui history and culture.

5F Diversity Awareness Representative

Marcia Cypert said she did not attend the December meeting of the Muslim exhibit advisory committee, but she did attend their meeting on January 2.

- She said the committee is planning the opening event for their upcoming exhibit, *Jewel in the Desert*, which will open in the City Hall gallery this fall.
- The two-day event, which will be called *Jewel in the Desert: Getting Acquainted with Our Muslim Neighbors*, will include an open house at the mosque and many other activities. It will take place on October 3 and 4.
- **Chair Gail Fisher** said **Tempe Sister Cities'** *Oktoberfest* will take place the same weekend, and suggested trying to link the two events.
- **Ms. Cypert** listed some of the goals for the exhibit, which include the history of Muslims in Arizona and their contributions to the community.

Agenda Item 6 – Board Announcements

- **Lisa Roach** reminded the Board that a golf tournament, to benefit the **Elias-Rodriguez House,** would be hosted by the **Guess Birchett Questers** on April 18.
- **Betty Enz** announced that almost everything at the **Tempe Historical Society** gift shop is 50% off. She also announced that the **Cook College** property in Tempe will be sold.

Agenda Item 7 – Future Agenda Items

There were no requests for future agenda items.

The Board's next meeting will be February 7, 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Prepared by: Jerri Copenhaver

Gail Fisher

Gail Fisher
Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board