



Board of Museums and History Special Meeting
August 23, 2024, 11AM
Summary of Minutes

This meeting was held online via MS TEAMS

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Timmons, Chair
Bert Bedeau
Rochanne Downs
Nathan Harper
Daniel Markoff
Dora Martinez
Jan Petersen
Mark Slaughter

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED

Mercedes de la Garza
Michelle Schmitter
Seth Schorr

STAFF PRESENT

Brenda Scolari, Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Mary Ellen Kawchack, Chief Deputy Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Francine Burge, Marketing & Communications Manager, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General, Nevada Office of the Attorney General
Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Daphne DeLeon, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Josh Bonde, Director, Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Hollis Gillespie, Director, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
Catherine Magee, Director, Nevada Historical Society
Sean Pitts, Director, East Ely Railroad Depot Museum
Tracey Sprague, Director, Lost City Museum
Anna Camp, Anthropology Tribal Liaison/NAGPRA Coordinator, Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Mike Malone, Administrative Assistant, Nevada Division of Museums & History

PRESENTERS

Kyle Brice, Vice President of Strategy, Estipona Group
Chelsey Brice, Account Manager, Estipona Group

1. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Board Chair and Staff.

Chair Anthony Timmons called for the start of the meeting recording.

2. Call meeting to order. Board Chair.

Chair Timmons called the meeting to order.

3. Call for confirmation that the meeting was properly posted. Board Chair and Staff.

Mike Malone, AAll, confirmed the meeting was posted in accordance with open meeting law.

4. Call for the roll call of Board and determination of quorum. Board Chair and Staff.

Chair Timmons called for roll. AA Malone took roll and confirmed there was a quorum for the meeting, with three excused absences.

5. Public comment announcement. Board Chair (Informational only).

No public comment was given.

6. Presentation on the Division of Museums & History Strategic Plan. (Informational only).

Administrator Thielen provided an overview of the strategic plan process to define and align goals throughout the division and introduced co-presenters Kyle Brice, Vice President of Strategy, Estipona Group, and Chelsey Brice, Account Manager, Estipona Group, to present an overview of the Division's strategic plan.

Mr. Brice explained the process to synthesize Division objectives and three primary goals were identified:

1. Create a unified vision and mission

2. Become more intentional about marketing the Nevada Division of Museums and History (the Division) and communicating as a team to the benefit of all museums

3. Lay the foundation for a strategic plan for the Division

Division mission and vision statements were also articulated:

Mission – save and share Nevada's heritage to inspire curiosity and lifelong learning.

Vision – a welcoming space that inspires, informs, and connects all who explore our shared history.

Mr. Brice provided examples of how the identified goals could enhance museum operations and what the strategies to implement various steps of the plan would support the objectives.

Member Downs inquired about how NAGPRA compliance is addressed within the strategic plan.

Administrator Thielen noted that NAGPRA compliance was an important part of the strategic planning discussions and reinforced that in addition to being federal law, it's the right thing to do for Division museums and asked if member Downs would like to participate in subsequent discussions. Member Bedeau reiterated the importance of NAGPRA compliance stated by member Downs. Member Bedeau also shared past experience with multi-lingual requests, often from international visitors.

Member Martinez expressed disappointment that the presentation document was not accessible for her to review. Member Martinez reminded the Board, Division and presenters, that ADA laws have been around for decades and also highlighted that the language access plan in Nevada is the law with SB 318. Member Martinez also reminded of the request that documents should be sent in advance to confirm accessibility. Chair Timmons asked if braille would be appropriate for exhibits? Member Martinez suggested a QR code works well, and with braille, demonstrates to visitors there are a variety of ways to engage as guests.

Administrator Thielen stated another meeting on NAGPRA items would address how the priority pertains to the overall strategic plan. Chair Timmons, member Harper and member Petersen expressed interest in participating in the NAGPRA conversations.

Chair Timmons thanked the presenters for their work with the museums on the strategic plan and emphasized his appreciation for his fellow Board members in providing valuable comments and suggestions. Chair underscored the importance of member input to ensure the museums are inclusive for all visitors.

7. Public Comment Announcement. Board Chair. (Informational only.)

Larry Hamilton requested the presentation and meeting minutes be shared.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Timmons adjourned the meeting.