

Board of Museums and History Meeting

SUMMARY OF MINUTES

The meeting was held via TEAMS conference, and in person at 9AM, March 6th, 2026:
Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City
2180 S. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Timmons, (Former) Chair
Mercedes de la Garza, Chair (Former Vice Chair)
Jan Petersen, Vice Chair
Bert Bedeau
Rochanne Downs
Nathan Harper
Dora Martinez
Michelle Schmitter
Mark Slaughter
Lou Ann Speulda-Drews

ATTENDEES

Brenda Scolari, Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Mary Ellen Kawchack, Deputy Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Daniel Thielen, Administrator, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Harry Ward, Deputy Attorney General
Brian Deem, Administrative Services Officer, Nevada Division of Museums & History
Jen Roger, Director, Nevada State Museum, Carson City
Christopher MacMahon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
Sean Pitts, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely
Hollis Gillespie, Director, Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
Daphne DeLeon, Director, Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City
Tracey Sprague, Director, Lost City Museum
Art Krupicz, Administrator, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Robin Reed, Deputy Administrator, SHPO
Jean-Guy Dube, National & State Register of Historic Places Coordinator, SHPO
Kyle Shulz, Research Director, Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs
Kelly Brant, Membership Programs Manager, Division of Museums & History
Anna Camp, Anthropology Tribal Liaison/NAGPRA Coordinator, Nevada State Museum Carson City
Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant, Division of Museums & History
Amanda Brierton
Kristen Brown
Melissa Hafey
Leikkona Jensen
Charles Timothy McKeown
Diya Patel
Ashley Maden
Bret Scolari
Barry Simcoe
Josh Thieriot
Stevey Weed

1. Call the meeting to order. Chair of the Nevada Board of Museums & History.
Board Chair Anthony Timmons called the meeting to order.
2. Call for the start of the recording of the meeting. Board Chair and staff.
Chair Timmons requested the recording of the meeting be started. AA Michael Malone started the recording.
3. Call for confirmation the meeting was properly posted. Board Chair and staff.
Chair Timmons asked if the meeting was properly posted. AA Malone confirmed the meeting was posted in accordance with open meeting law.
4. Call for the roll call of the Board and determination of quorum. Board Chair and staff.
AA Malone took roll and a quorum was confirmed.
5. Nominations and election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the Board of Museums and History. Terms upon election. Chair (For possible action.)
Member Schmitter moved to nominate Member de la Garza for Chair of the Board of Museums & History; Member Petersen seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
Member Timmons moved to nominate Member Petersen for Vice Chair of the Board of Museums & History; Member Martinez and Member Slaughter seconded. During discussion for additional nominees, Member Schmitter nominated Member Bedeau for Vice Chair. Member Bedeau thanked Member Schmitter and graciously declined. Motion to approve Member Petersen as Vice Chair carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
6. Public comment announcement. Board Chair.
No public comment was given.
7. Acceptance of Minutes. Board Chair and Staff (All items for possible action.)
 - a. December 5, 2025, Meeting of the Board of Museums & History.+
Member Petersen moved to approve the December 5, 2025 minutes; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Member Bedeau abstained, as he was not present. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - b. January 23, 2026, Special Meeting of the Board of Museums & History.+
Member Petersen moved to approve the January 23, 2026 minutes; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Member Downs abstained, as she was not present. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
8. Board announcements and meeting dates. (All items for possible action.)
 - a. 2026 Board Meeting Dates
 1. June 4-5, 2026 (THU-FRI) – Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas
 2. September 11, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Museum, Carson City
 3. December 4, 2026 (FRI) – Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City
9. Nevada Department of Tourism & Cultural Affairs (DTCA). Brenda Scolari, Director. (Informational)
 - a. Department Update. Brenda Scolari.
 - b. Marketing and Communications Report. Mary Ellen Kawchack, Chief Deputy Director, DTCA.
Director Scolari updated on plans for America 250. Chief Deputy Director Kawchack provide updates to members on outreach successes with updated engagement statistics from those efforts.

10. Consent agenda. All items, a-h, for possible action. Items may be combined for a single vote. Board members may pull any item for discussion and/or separate vote. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Restricted donation \$18,260 to NSMCC from the 2026 Annual Appeal drive+
 - b. Restricted donation \$2,000 to NSMCC from Fidelity Charitable Investments+
 - c. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NSMCC from Cora Johnson+
 - d. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NSMCC from Eugene Hattori+
 - e. Restricted donation \$20,000 to NHS from Community Foundation of Northern Nevada+
 - f. Restricted donation \$1,000 to NHS from Anne T. Simone+
 - g. Restricted donation \$500 to NHS from Janice C. Pine+
 - h. Nevada State Railroad Museum Boulder City request - Amtrack locomotive 315+
 - i. Nevada State Museum Carson City Proposed Pricing Structure+
Member Petersen moved to approve consent agenda items 10a-10i; Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
11. Administrator's Report. Daniel P. Thielen, Administrator. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. General Report
Administrator Thielen provided member Martinez with a 3D-printed model of the Boulder City project, currently under construction. Administrator Thielen presented the financial 'dashboard' of the Division to members.
 - b. Admission and Train Fee Review +
Member Schmitter moved to approve the admission and train fee schedule. Member Speulda-Drews and Member Bedeau seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - c. Nevada State Railroad Museum Carson City, Facility Rental Fees+
Member Bedeau moved to approve the facility rental fees. Member Martinez and Member Slaughter seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - d. NAGPRA
12. Nevada State Historic Preservation Office. Art Krupicz, Administrator / State Historic Preservation Officer. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Staff Report +
 - b. National Register of Historic Places nomination: East Fourth Street Historic District, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +
Member Bedeau moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - c. National Register of Historic Places nomination: Downtown Winnemucca Historic District, Winnemucca, Humboldt County, Nevada +
Vice Chair Petersen moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - d. National Register of Historic Places nomination: Aitken House – Florence Crittenton Home, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +
Member Bedeau moved to approve items 12d and 12e. Member Schmitter seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
 - e. State Register of Historic Places nomination: Aitken House – Florence Crittenton Home, Reno, Washoe County, Nevada +

- f. State Register of Historic Places nomination: Log Cabin, Hawthorne, Mineral County, Nevada. +
Vice Chair Petersen moved to approve the nomination. Member Speulda-Drews seconded. Motion carried with a majority of members present, including the chair.
13. Chair's Report. Board Chair. (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
14. Board Committee Updates (All items for possible action.)
 - a. Finance Committee (Chair: Michelle Schmitter)
 - b. Buildings & Grounds Committee (Chair: Bert Bedeau)
 - c. Museum Store Committee (Chair: Jan Petersen)
 - d. Marketing & Technology Committee (Chair: Seth Schorr)
15. Museum Reports (All items for possible action unless otherwise noted.)
 - a. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City +
 - b. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Boulder City +
 - c. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Ely +
 - d. Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas +
 - e. Nevada State Museum, Carson City +
 - f. Nevada Historical Society +
 - g. Lost City Museum +
16. Private funds budget adjustments – current year. (For possible action.)
 - a. Changes approved by the Division Administrator
 - b. Changes requested from the Board over \$5,000
17. Board member comments on non-agendized items. (Discussion only.)
Member Timmons expressed his interest in remaining on the finance committee until his pending move out of the country. Vice Chair Petersen thanked Mr. Timmons for his tireless leadership as chair. Chair de la Garza echoed the sentiment, with great appreciation.
18. Future Board agenda items (Discussion only).
Member Bedeau suggested a clarification of the bylaws and/or policy and procedures for the board be reviewed and confirmed in subsequent meetings of the board.
19. Public Comment Announcement.
No public comment was given.
20. ADJOURNMENT
Chair de la Garza adjourned the meeting.

NOTICE POSTING LOCATIONS

<https://notice.nv.gov>

<http://museums.nevadaculture.org>

NEVADA DIVISION OF MUSEUMS & HISTORY

412 E. Musser St., Suite 2, Carson Street, Carson City 89701

The public may acquire this meeting notice, agenda and supporting materials, pursuant to NRS 241.020(2) by contacting Michael Malone, Administrative Assistant III, Division of Museums and History, (775) 687-7340, ext. 301, or via email, to mpmalone@nevadaculture.org.

Supporting documents are available from the Nevada Division of Museums and History at 412 E. Musser Street, Suite # 2, Carson City, Nevada 89701.

We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodation for members of the public with a disability who wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please contact the Nevada Division of Museums and History by calling (775) 687-7340 at least two days prior to the meeting.