

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

AN AGENDA OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE *Fort Concho Museum Board*
THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS

April 18, 2023 3:30 pm

Fort Concho Officers' Quarters 8

215 East Avenue D

Masks optional when within the building

FORT CONCHO'S OFFICERS' QUARTERS 8 IS ACCESSIBLE TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES. IF ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED TO OBSERVE OR COMMENT, PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT CONCHO BOARD LIAISON, BOB BLUTHARDT, 630 South Oakes, 481-2626 AT LEAST 24 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

*As a courtesy to those in attendance, please place your cell phone on "Silent" or "Vibrate"
Thank You!*

I. OPEN SESSION

- A. Call to Order
- B. Determination of a quorum
- C. Approval of excused absences
- D. Introduction of Guests
- E. Presentations
- F. Public Comment

The Board takes public comment on all items in the Regular Agenda. Public input on a Regular Agenda item will be taken at its appropriate discussion. Public input on an item not on the Agenda or Consent Agenda may be identified and requested for consideration by the Board at this time. The Board may request an item to be placed on a future agenda, or for a Consent Agenda item, to be moved to the Regular Agenda for public comment.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Consideration of approving the March 21, 2023 Minutes
- 2. Treasurer's Report
- 3. Site Manager's Report

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

- 4. Collections Report
- 5. Staff Reports
- 6. Briefing on Fort Concho Board Appointment Procedure and Current Board Status
- 7. Report on Fort Board Visit to Site of Concho Mail Station
- 8. Update on Symphony Polo Event of April 29 at Fort Concho
- 9. Update on Regional Cavalry Competition and Frontier Day of April 20-22
- 10. Review of May/Tourism Month Events at Fort Concho
- 11. Fort Concho Membership Drive Report
- 12. Building and Grounds Updates
- 13. Briefing on Oakes Street Bridge Repair
- 14. Fort Concho Foundation Report
- 15. Update on Barracks/Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction
- 16. Update on NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project
- 17. Future Agenda Items
- 18. Announcements

Given by order of the Fort Concho Museum Board and posted in accordance with Title 5, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Friday, April 14, 2023



Robert F. Bluthardt
Site Manager

Fort Concho Museum Board Minutes

March 21, 2023

I. OPEN SESSION

A. Call to Order - President Sherley Spears called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. at Fort Concho Officers' Quarters 8, 215 East Avenue D.

B. Determination of a Quorum – Site Manager, Bob Bluthardt confirmed that a quorum was present: Sherley Spears, Kathy Keane, Lisa Marley, George Balli, Dave Schaller, Tommy Earnest, Tracy Simpson, Lt. Col. John McAllister, Donald Barnhart, Dr. Jason Pierce, Yukio Kuniyuki, and Sarah Cole. Also present were ASU Student Honors Program Liaisons Robert Burnett and Kaci Wainscott. Absent: Monty Stanley, Curtis Milbourn, and Colleen Haddad.

C. Approval of Excused Absences – Donald Barnhart moved to approve the absence of Monty Stanley, Curtis Milbourn, and Colleen Haddad. George Balli seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

Colleen Haddad arrived at 3:33 p.m.

E. Presentations – None

F. Public Comment – None

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

5. Staff Reports – Education Coordinator Sarah Ross noted that she was excited to be getting programming going and rebuilding the women's living history program. She informed that the Ladies' Tea in Officers' Quarters 1 was very well received with the second session being completely sold out. She further informed that workshops/seminars have been scheduled including a corset/apron making workshop, campfire story nights, and the Frontier Ladies Living History Workshop in August as well as hosting a fall living history circuit with an anticipated attendance of 60-80 focused on replicating the 1882 time period.

Sherley noted that Sarah was working on her master's degree and complimented her on the incredible Celebrating Frontier Women presentation she did for the Virtual Women's History celebration hosted by the San Angelo NAACP Buffalo Soldiers Memorial. Sarah spoke on two women from the frontier days, both of whom have a relationship to Buffalo Soldiers.

4. Collections Report – Cory Robinson displayed several pieces from Dr. John Langellier's collection that are currently on loan to the Fort. He informed that these pieces would be part of the Buffalo Soldier Exhibit at Mayer Museum on the Angelo State University campus through August 2023 after which they would become a permanent exhibit at the Fort. Cory further informed that the opening of the Mayer Museum exhibit would be on April 21st at 5 p.m.

I. OPEN SESSION (cont.)

D. Introduction of Guests – Bob introduced Lori Dodd with the Texas Midwest Community Network (TMCN). Lori provided information about the organization and distributed the 2023 Texas

Midwest Guide. She informed that TMCN would be holding its Mid-Year Conference on May 3rd in the stables.

Responding to the interest of Sherley Spears in having information about the NAACP Buffalo Soldiers Memorial in the 2024 Guide, Lori stated that the San Angelo information is compiled by the San Angelo Chamber of Commerce and entries should be directed to them.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. **Approval of the February 21, 2023 Minutes** – Colleen Haddad moved to approve the Minutes of February 21, 2023. Sarah Cole seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

2. **Treasurer's Report** – Lisa Marley presented the financials for February 2023 noting that overall income was down 3.6% yet 5.8% above the past ten year average. Year-to-date income is down; however, shop and admissions will catch up as weather improves and staff continue to chase Christmas at Old Fort Concho sponsorship dollars. Rent is up with \$55,000 in contracts for the rest of the year with more expected. Overall expenses are down 1.2% with Salaries, Supplies and Christmas at Old Fort Concho on track and lower than this same period in 2022. In Summary Year-to-Date Income as of February 28th was \$496,190 and Expenses were \$484,927 resulting in a positive balance of \$11,713. Colleen Haddad moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Dave Schaller seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

3. **Site Manager's Report** – Bob referred members to his written report in the agenda packet and said that he had mailed a letter, which was reviewed by Sherley Spears and Kathy Keane, in response to Guillermo Torres' letter regarding his request for a historical marker on the Fort grounds for the Battle of Remolino, Mexico. He noted that he had not received a response; however, he offered Mr. Torres the option of addressing the Board at some future date if he so desired.

Bob further reported on the following items:

- The San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts were very well pleased with the Quartermaster facility.
- The Regional Cavalry Competition currently had approximately forty horses (sixteen of which were coming from Fort Hood) registered for the April 19-22 event. Responding to the question of Lt. Col. John McAllister, Bob requested contact information on other potential participants and stated that he would send an invitation with additional information.
- DeCoty Coffee had forgiven expenses related to the 2022 Christmas at Old Fort Concho event.
- The recent Standard Times Reunion was well attended with former editor Kevin Barry pledging his support for digitizing existing documents following a research of any related copyright laws. The records will eventually be stored at Fort Concho.
- Fort Concho will host the annual Chamber of Commerce Tourism Celebration Luncheon on May 9 and the board members will be invited to attend at the fort's sponsored table.

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

6. **Update of Future Proposed Site of Concho Mail Station (Standing Agenda Item)** – Bob suggested that this was a major opportunity for the City and that he and Carl White had met with the City Attorney and Assistant City Manager with positive results. The matter is scheduled to go to the City

Council in April. Bob informed that the site is on City property. Responding to the request of Board members, Bob stated that he would work with Tom Ashmore to schedule a walking tour of the site.

7. Update on Symphony Polo Event of April 29 at Fort Concho and Approval of MOU Covering All Charges – Bob distributed a revised copy of the proposed MOU which has been sent to the Courtney Mahaffey of the Symphony. Noting the excellent state of the parade grounds, Bob suggested that there was a possibility that the Fort may want to provide a partial payment/sharing of the sprinkler/hoses that had already been purchased by the Symphony. Responding to the suggestions of the Board, Bob stated that he would work on the language to ensure the facilities would be returned to their original condition following the event or be charged for additional staff time and that the Symphony would provide clearing during the event or be assigned a Fort staff member. Donald Barnhart moved to approve the MOU with the suggested revisions regarding cleaning. Kathy Keane seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

8. Review of Fort Concho Membership Drive for 2023 (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob stated that letters had gone out for renewals for the upper memberships and asked Board members watch for theirs. He further requested that Board members provide him with potential new member candidates. Bob distributed a flyer created by Brendalee Brown of the staff that provides an overview of Fort Concho Accomplishments in 2022. The flyer was used in the mailout and, in response to the suggestion of the Board, would be used in the San Angelo Gives campaign.

9. Building and Grounds Updates – No Report

10. Briefing on Oakes Street Bridge Repair and Related Issues for Fort Concho (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob informed that the bridge would be closed within the next 90 days for repair with the State funding 90-100% of the funding. The City will provide wayfinding resulting from the closure as the bridge provides access to two-thirds of the Fort's traffic.

11. Fort Concho Foundation Report – Bob informed that the Foundation had provided funding for the Buffalo Soldier exhibit at Angelo State University.

12. Update on Barracks/Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction – Bob informed that the limestone façade was going up on the Flipper Street side.

13. Future Agenda Items – Bob noted the standing agenda items: Concho Mail Station Site, Membership Drive, and Oakes Street Bridge Repair. He further suggested a Board walk-about/golf cart tour of the Fort Concho grounds (43 acres, 27 buildings) at an upcoming meeting.

14. Update on NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project – Sherley informed that construction of the Memorial had begun which included holes being dug for the ten pillars. Responding to the question, Sherley stated that the contractor was McCrea Construction LLC.

She informed that the Memorial's grand opening would occur on the weekend of July 28-30.

Kathy expressed thanks to Sherley Spears for moving this project forward. Sherley recognized Bob and Cory for their continued assistance and support. Sherley reminded that the Memorial would be participating in San Angelo Gives and asked for the Board's support of their efforts.

George Balli left the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

15. Announcements – The following announcements were made:

- Responding to the request of Board members, Bob will provide a thank you and possible gift from Cowboy Up Chocolates to Dr. John Langellier for his generous loan of Buffalo Soldier artifacts.
- Yukio Kuniyuki informed of several upcoming events hosted by the San Angelo Performing Arts Center <https://www.sanangelopac.org/>.
- Lt. Col. John McAllister informed of the upcoming Support Your Local Warriors Golf Tournament on April 1st beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Quicksand Golf Course hosted by the Sentinel Foundation.

Adjournment – Colleen Haddad moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Schaller seconded the motion that carried unanimously. Sherley Spears adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ *Kathy Keane*

Kathy Keane, Board Secretary