

Fort Concho Museum Board Minutes

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Officer's Quarters 8

I. Open Session

A. Call to Order – Board President Don Barnhart called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM.

B. Determination of a Quorum – Site Manager Bob Bluthardt confirmed a quorum was present: Don Barnhart, Monty Stanley, Lisa Marley, Ewell Loudermilk, George Balli, Penny Roberts, Tracy Simpson, Colleen Haddad, Tommy Earnest, and ASU Honors Intern Daisy Herr. Absent: Dr. Michael Powers, Sarah Clemens, Yukio Kuniyuki, Asher Rogers, LTC Raymond Kuderka, and Dr. Jason Pierce. (Dr. Powers arrived at 3:40 PM, Dr. Pierce arrived at 4:19 PM)

C. Approval of Excused Absences – Motion to excuse the absences made by Monty Stanley and seconded by Ewell Loudermilk. Motion carried.

D. Introduction of Guests – FC Curator Cory Robinson and FC Educator Sarah Thieme

E. Presentations – None

F. Public Comment – No public comment.

II. Consent Agenda

1. Consideration of Approving the January 21, 2025 Minutes – the Minutes were Approved and Accepted by Board consensus.

2. Treasurer's Report – Board Treasurer Lisa Marley report for January 2025, representing the 4-month mark – 33% of the Fiscal Year. January income, overall up \$7,700 or 14% over last year, second best January in past 12 years; poor weather cut into admissions and gift shop sales; rent up \$6,374 or 58% from 2024; interest on Fund Balance way up, but that will decline for rest of the year. Year to Date Income, admissions and gift shop down due to poor winter weather; C@OFC remains down \$10k over last year; membership up \$4,800 over 2024, with a new \$5000 member; Rent up almost \$4,600 over last year; Donations up \$4,250 over last year; overall – despite poor Christmas weekend – up almost \$6,200 over 2024, second best in past decade. Expenses, salaries/benefits slightly lower than this point last year; supplies/services about the same; C@OFC has most bills paid and it is near regular levels for this point; overall is lower in totals and percentage vs 2024. Total Income for this point - \$441,697; Total Expenses for this point - \$429,327; In the black - \$12,370.

The Treasurer's Report was Accepted and Approved by consensus of the Board.

3. Site Manager's Report – Bob referred to the attached Report in the Board packet, noting these points would be discussed on the following agenda.

III. Regular Agenda: Public Hearing and Comments

4. Nominations Report – No changes, no new candidates in the pipeline. Dr. Pierce will continue until replaced.

5. Review of C@OFC 2025 – Overall sponsorship was second best in history. Staff are reviewing the reviews by merchants and building/event chairs. Good publicity. Minor issues with the restrooms or portable toilets. No good solution to please all and is an annual problem.

6. Review of San Angelo Gives 2025 Campaign – Goal set at \$15,000. Cory reported he will be assessing the exhibits on whether the item requires air conditioning, security, etc. Some items have

suffered the effects of climate and/or ultra-violet damage. Looking into seeing if an exhibit can be expanded. He described how some exhibits are not period correct. "What is the story the Fort wants to tell."

7. Collections Report – Cory again reported of working on a loan of items for an exhibit for the Bob Bullock Museum in Austin.. Free advertising for the Fort. Gaining some storage space at the State building from some former offices now unused. Cory brought a Eureka "copier" with an 1898 patent date. Item used in the 1900-1910 time frame. Sarah reported her being approached by Kala Allen, 8th grade social studies teacher at Lincoln Middle School, of the students learning of Fort Concho. Program is "Your Story, Our Story" and will be May 12-16. Dr. Powers offered help from ASU. The Board applauded Sarah on her being named COSA Employee of the Year for Fort Concho.

8. 2025 Membership Campaign – Renewals in early March. Need new names.

9. Update on Barracks & Mess Halls 3-4 – City Council approved MOU for the new assistant Archivist and operational assistance, funded at \$350,000 over five years. Matt Lewis of San Angelo Foundation found private donors. To be staffed by the end of April.

10. Review of Barracks 1-2 Visitor Center Briefing on March 18-19 – Architect here March 18th and be part of the Board meeting.

11. Consideration of a Fort Concho/US Army 250th Project Committee for 2026 – Dr. Powers will chair the project. This item will be ongoing on the agenda.

12. Update on USCA Regional Cavalry Competition – Whatever caused the event to be re-located elsewhere is still not fully clear.

13. Logo Committee Report – Getting closer to consensus. Closing in on Building, name, and date.

14. Fort Concho Foundation Report – Will meet in April, investments doing well.

15. Update on Concho Mail Station Report – Good news coming. Permit in the works. More info at the March meeting. Artifacts coming back to FC for future display.

16. Staff News – Brendalee Brown will be attending future meeting to talk about the website that is being reconstructed.

17. Future Agenda Items and Considerations – Nothing noted.

Board President Don Barnhart presented to Dr. Jason Pierce an award for his Board service.

Motion to Adjourn by Tracy Simpson and seconded by Dr. Michael Powers. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Next Board Meeting March 18, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tommy Earnest, Secretary

/s/ Tommy Earnest