

## **Fort Concho Museum Board Minutes April 19, 2022**

### **I. OPEN SESSION**

**A. Call to Order** - President Roger Banks 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: Roger Banks, Brandon Allen, Kathy Keane, Dave Schaller, Don Barnhart, Sherley Spears, Dr. Jason Pierce, Curtis Milbourn, Colleen Haddad and Lisa Marley. Arriving at 3:47 was Yukio Kuniyuki  
Absent: LTC Joe Garwacki, George Balli and Monty Stanley. Hailey Hawkins, ASU Honors Student Intern, also attended.

**C. Approval of Excused Absences** – LTC Joe Garwacki, George Balli and Monty Stanley were absent. Sherley Spears moved to approve the absences. Dr. Jason Pierce seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

**D. Introduction of Guests** – Betty Teston, Texas Hunger Initiative's San Angelo Regional Office, Donnie Lunsford, Boy Scouts of America - Texas Southwest Council, and Macyn Slayton, Scout – BSA Troop 42 were in attendance to address the following item:

**III. 8. Briefing on Shade Cover Project at Community Garden** – Ms. Slayton distributed a drawing of the proposed shade structure noting that it would be a light tan to give it a more cedar/wood look. The structure will provide much needed shade to the mixed variety beds. The project was scheduled to be presented before the Design and Historic Review Commission on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> for review and potential approval. Responding to questions, Ms. Teston stated the community garden had partnered with AgriLife and Fort Concho Elementary to care for and harvest the garden. The beneficiary of the harvest is proposed to be Rust Street Ministries. The Initiative continues to seek volunteers for ongoing maintenance and suggested the possibility of local BSA troops.

Bob noted that the DHRC may require the structure to look more like the Fort to which he is opposed.

**E. Presentations** – None.

**F. Public Comment** - None.

### **II. CONSENT AGENDA**

**1. Approval of the March 15, 2022 Minutes** – Don Barnhart moved to approve the Minutes of March 15, 2022. Brandon Allen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

**2. Treasurer's Report** – Lisa Marley presented the financials for March 2022, noting that income was down slightly due mostly to late deposits of membership donations which will appear in April. Admissions were back on par with previous years when we charged; however, this means that donations are down due to resuming admission fees. YTD is up almost \$83K due to holding the Christmas event. The Gift Shop is up 5% over last year and Rent is up 50% with \$60-65K in contracts for the rest of the year. Overall, the Fort is \$4,485 positive for the first half of the year.

Dr. Jason Pierce moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Curtis Milbourn seconded the motion, which carried unanimously

**3. Site Manager's Report** – Bob referred members to his written report in the agenda packet.

*3:47 p.m. Yukio Kuniyuki arrived at the meeting.*

### **III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS**

**4. Building & Grounds Report** – Bob informed that thanks to recent work all the roofs were new at the same time for the first time in 27 years. Staff was awaiting a final quote for the completion of column work including those for Mess Halls 5 and 6. Bob was anticipating an architectural contract by the next meeting.

**6. Update on Buffalo Soldier Memorial** – Sherley Spears noted that the first meeting of the Memorial Committee would be held on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. She further noted that they would be participating in San Angelo Gives Day and thanked Lisa Marley for her contribution. Sherley solicited assistance from the Board in identifying an individual to head up the fundraising efforts noting the need for this person to have influence and access to money. City Council had recently approved the Paseo as the location for the Memorial. Plans are to look at marketing and potential grants to ensure the necessary funds are raised by the end of 2022 so that construction can begin in early 2023. Sherley expressed her hope to have “Future Home” signage in place soon. She further noted upcoming events including “Evening with a Hero” event on May 12<sup>th</sup> and a presentation to the San Angelo Pachyderm Club on May 18<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Nominations Report** – Bob noted there was one slot open on the Board which was City Council District 5's appointment. He has spoken to Councilwoman Smith about the opening and noted that she would be looking for a potential candidate. Yukio Kuniyuki suggested possible candidates through the local Young Professionals group to which Sherley Spears offered to contact Heather at the Chamber of Commerce regarding the idea.

**9. Collections Report** – Bob noted there was nothing to report. Kathy Keane reminded Bob of the work the Penatuhkah Comanche Trails group has done to establish sites to commemorate the tribe's presence in our area. She further noted the need to connect Curator of History Cory Robinson to the Comanche Nation in Lawton, Oklahoma to ensure Comanche authenticity to the Native American exhibit.

**10. Update on Barracks & Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction Project** – Bob informed the pads were in place and the walls should be going up soon. He reminded that completion is scheduled for later in 2022; however, the move would be delayed until early 2023 due the Christmas event.

**11. Fort Concho Foundation Report** – Roger noted the Foundation's acceptance of a \$20K gift which would be used for the Native American exhibit as well as shelving. Bob noted the importance of pushing the San Angelo Gives Day which is focused on additional funding for the exhibit. Several Board members offered suggestions on how best to promote the Day.

**13. Staff News** – Bob again referred Board Members to his written Site Manager's Report and noted the continuing competitive job market in finding candidates for open positions.

**12. Membership Drive Briefing** – Bob informed that \$26,750 had been received which represents one half of our goal. Letters have gone out and the Board was reminded to consider renewal of their memberships.

**5. Review of All Site Capital Projects** – Bob distributed a detailed draft of the Fort’s Five-Year Capital Projects Plan and provided a summary review of the documents. He suggested that the Board consider a more detailed review at an upcoming meeting. Bob reminded that the Fort would celebrate 100 Years as a Preservation Site in 2028 – a good anniversary and perhaps goal for many of these projects.

*4:41 p.m. Hailey Hawkins left the meeting.*

**14. Future Agenda Items** – N/A

Brandon Allen informed the 2022 Army Ball would be held on June 17<sup>th</sup> at the Cactus Hotel.

Bob noted the Welcome Social for the Regional Cavalry Competition participants would be held on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> in Barracks 6 and the Banquet would be held on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Commissary.

**Adjournment** – Curtis Milbourn moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Schaller seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Roger Banks adjourned the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ Kathy Keane*

Kathy Keane  
Board Secretary