

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

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

June 20, 2023 3:30 pm

Mayer Museum at Angelo State University
2501 West Avenue N

Masks optional when within the building

MAYER MUSEUM 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 May 16, 2023 Minutes**
- 2. **Treasurer's Report**
- 3. **Site Manager's Report**

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

- 4. **Buffalo Soldier Exhibit and Possible Future Traveling Exhibits**
- 5. **Staff Reports**
- 6. **Review of Polo on the Concho with Courtney Mahaffey and Plans for 2024 Event**
- 7. **Report on Site of Concho Mail Station**
- 8. **Fort Concho Membership Drive Report**
- 9. **Building and Grounds Updates**
- 10. **Briefing on Oakes Street Bridge Closure and Repairs**

11. Fort Concho Foundation Report
12. Update on Barracks/Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction
13. Update on NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project
14. Future Agenda Items
15. Consideration of Cancelling July 18 Board Meeting
16. Announcements

Given by order of the Fort Concho Museum Board and posted in accordance with Title 5, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551, Friday, June 16, 2023

Robert F. Bluthardt
Site Manager
Fort Concho

Fort Concho Museum Board Minutes April 18, 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, Dave Schaller, Tommy Earnest, Tracy Simpson, Donald Barnhart, Dr. Jason Pierce, Yukio Kuniyuki, Colleen Haddad, Sarah Cole, and Penny Roberts. Also present were ASU Student Honors Program Liaisons Robert Burnett and Kaci Wainscott. Absent: Monty Stanley, George Balli, and Lt. Col. John McAllister.

C. Approval of Excused Absences – Dave Schaller moved to approve the absence of Monty Stanley, George Balli, and Lt. Col. John McAllister. Colleen Haddad seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.

D. Introductions – New Member Penny Roberts introduced herself noting her family's lineage in San Angelo and her interest in the Fort's history.

E. Presentations – None

F. Public Comment – None

II. CONSENT AGENDA

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

2. Treasurer's Report – Lisa Marley presented the financials for March 2023 noting that overall income was up almost \$16,000 over 2022 and 24% above the past 10-year average. Year-to-date income is up slightly over 2022 with shop and admissions expected to pick up in late spring/summer. Additional Christmas at Old Fort Concho (CAOFC) income will be the 2023 event booth fees and sponsorships; rental income is looking good for the rest of the year, interest income is up considerably, and membership is ahead of the same period in 2022. Overall expenses are down 2% with all lines items below mid-year percentages except for CAOFC as all bills come due when invoiced. In summary, Year-to-Date Income as of March 31st was \$599,046 and Expenses were \$576,184 resulting in a positive balance of \$22,862. Donald Barnhart moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Yukio Kuniyuki seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

3. Site Manager's Report – Bob referred members to his written report in the agenda packet and distributed a flyer regarding Fort Clark's commemoration of Colonel Ranald S. Mackenzie's raid with the 4th Cavalry to Remolino, Mexico. He reminded that he had written a letter in response to Guillermo Torres' letter regarding a request for a historical marker on the Fort grounds for the Battle of Remolino, Mexico but had not received a response.

Bob further reported on the following items:

- Both the San Angelo Family Magazine and the Rodeo Magazine included photos and advertisements about the Fort with a nice cover shot in the San Angelo Family Magazine.
- San Angelo was recently awarded four Texas Travel Awards for Destination Marketing Campaign (“*Our Bottlenecks Are Better Than Theirs*”), Under the Radar Activity (*San Angelo Revolution Film Festival*), Public Art (*Pop Up Museum*), and Music Festival (*Wild West Fest*).
- The Buffalo Soldier Exhibit “Wearing the Blue” in the Mayer Museum on the Angelo State University campus will hold its opening on Thursday, April 20th from 5:00-6:30 pm. All were encouraged to attend. He noted Cory Robinson’s excellent work in creating this display.

Bob also distributed and asked members to sign a Thank You card for Dr. John Langellier for his efforts over the past several years in tremendously improving our collections and exhibit capacity and a Get-Well card for former Board President and Foundation Member Roger Banks who is battling some recent health issues.

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

- 4. Collections Report** – Bob noted the possibility of military band instrument collection coming to the Fort which Dr. John Langellier has been negotiating on the Fort’s behalf.
- 5. Staff Report** – No report.
- 6. Briefing on Fort Concho Board Appointment Procedure and Current Board Status** – Bob noted the three ways board appointments may occur: 1) self-nomination, 2) Council appointment, and 3) a recommendation by the Board to City Council. He further distributed and reviewed the current Board Roster and Board Terms. Sherly Spears asked that those members eligible for renewal contact her at their earliest convenience of their intention to remain on the Board – Lisa Marley, Colleen Haddad, and Sarah Cole.
- 7. Report on Fort Board Visit to Site of Concho Mail Station (Standing Agenda Item)** – Kathy Keane, Tommy Earnest and Sherley Spears noted their recent visit to the historically significant Concho Mail Station site noting the tremendous work and research done by Tom Ashmore and C.A. Maedgen with the West Texas Archeological Society. Kathy Keane further expressed her thanks to Tom Ashmore for recruiting a member of the homeless community at the site to clean up the area prior to the visit. Sherly Spears noted that an item is scheduled to go before the City Council on May 2nd to authorize staff to explore a feasibility study on the costs to secure the city-owned property and to request trash collection at the site. Bob stated that he would provide updates as they are known.
- 8. Update on Symphony Polo Event of April 29 at Fort Concho** – Bob noted the excellent state of the parade grounds, suggesting it was the greenest it had been at this point of the season in thirty years. He further informed that the flagpole was scheduled to be removed for the Polo event following the Regional Cavalry Competition this coming weekend.
- 9. Update on Regional Cavalry Competition and Frontier Day on April 20-22** – Bob informed that the horses had arrived with a record 46 competitors scheduled to appear. Our event is the training prior to the National Competition in Fort Reno, Oklahoma on September 21-24. Bob reminded that the awards banquet is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd at 6:30 pm and asked interested Board members to RSVP.

10. Review of May/Tourism Month Events at Fort Concho – Bob stated that the Fort is the host and sponsor for this annual event scheduled for May 9th in the Stables. All Board members interested in attending were encouraged to RSVP. Sherley Spears and Foundation President Carol Harrison will be giving short reports at the event.

Bob informed that from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, May 11th, the Chamber will kick off the inaugural *San Angelo Travel and Adventure Show* in the Stables to coincide with National Travel and Tourism Week.

11. Fort Concho Membership Drive Report (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob informed that 60% of the budgeted projections had been received and noted that thus far membership level increases are two times that of the number of level decreases. Recommendations on potential new members were requested from Board members.

12. Building and Grounds Updates – No Report

13. Briefing on Oakes Street Bridge Repair (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob informed that he was awaiting further details on the process and noted that additional wayfinding may need to be addressed as those details are made known.

14. Fort Concho Foundation Report – Bob stated that the Foundation had a good meeting and due to market conditions may not need to take the 2nd and 3rd scheduled disbursements. The Foundation moved to create a mule and wagon replacement fund. Responding to the question of Kathy Keane, Bob stated that the Capital Campaign that would address the renovations of Barracks 1-2 had been put on hold until early 2024.

15. Update on Barracks/Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction – Bob stated that construction was coming along and noted that Barracks/Mess Hall 3 would be finishing before Barracks/Mess Hall 4. Responding to the question of Sherley Spears, Bob stated that plans were in the works to honor Evelyn Lemons and Wayne Daniel in this project.

16. Update on NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project – Sherley Spears informed that construction of the Memorial continues with a scheduled grand opening on July 28-30 to coincide with Buffalo Soldiers Day. Many family events are being scheduled and the Boy Scouts will be creating a new badge for their work on the Memorial. Sherly encouraged donations to help offset the costs for additional benches and trees in the garden area off Oakes Street.

17. Future Agenda Items – Bob noted the standing agenda items: Concho Mail Station Site, Membership Drive, and Oakes Street Bridge Repair.

18. Announcements – The following announcements were made:

- Keep former Board President Roger Banks in prayer.
- Dr. Jason Pierce encouraged members to attend the opening of the Buffalo Soldiers Exhibit on Thursday, April 20th and to stay for a lecture on the history of the pecan nut in Texas and beyond by Dr. James McWilliams at the C.J. Davidson Conference Center. Dr. McWilliams will also hold a book signing following the lecture.

- Thank you to ASU Student Honors Program Liaisons Robert Burnett and Kaci Wainscott who are attending their last meeting.
- Bob noted a “thank you” received from San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts President and CEO Alex Freeman for the use of the Quartermaster Building. Bob suggested that Alex be invited to a future Board meeting.

Adjournment – Colleen Haddad moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Schaller seconded the motion that carried unanimously. Sherley Spears adjourned the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kathy Keane

Kathy Keane, Board Secretary