

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC MEETING

AN AGENDA OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE *Fort Concho Museum Board*
THE CITY OF SAN ANGELO, TEXAS
August 15, 2023 3:30 pm
Barracks 6, Burgess at Flipper Streets
Masks optional when within the building

BARRACKS 6 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 June 20, 2023 Minutes
- 2. Treasurer's Report
- 3. Site Manager's Report

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

- 4. Staff Reports
- 5. Review of 2023 Polo on the Concho with Courtney Mahaffey and Plans for 2024 Event
- 6. Discussion of social media programs at Fort Concho
- 7. Discussion of new logo for Fort Concho
- 8. Discussion of Ruffini Building and any moving/documentation proposal
- 9. Review of 2024 proposal for a Renaissance Festival on Parade Ground
- 10. Report on Site of Concho Mail Station
- 11. Fort Concho Membership Drive Report

12. Building and Grounds Updates
13. Update on Oakes Street Bridge Closure and Repairs
14. Fort Concho Foundation Report
15. Update on Barracks/Mess Halls 3-4 Reconstruction
16. Review of NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project Opening
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 531, Friday, August 11, 2023



Robert F. Bluthardt
Site Manager
Fort Concho

Fort Concho Museum Board Minutes June 20, 2023

I. OPEN SESSION

- A. Call to Order** - President Sherley Spears called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. at the Mayer Museum at Angelo State University, 2501 West Avenue N.
- B. Determination of a Quorum** – Site Manager, Bob Bluthardt confirmed that a quorum was present: Sherley Spears, Kathy Keane, Lisa Marley, Tommy Earnest, Tracy Simpson, Donald Barnhart, Dr. Jason Pierce, Sarah Cole, Monty Stanley and Lt. Col. John McAllister. Absent: Dave Schaller, Yukio Kuniyuki, Colleen Haddad, Penny Roberts and George Balli.
- C. Approval of Excused Absences** – Monty Stanley moved to approve the absence of Dave Schaller, Yukio Kuniyuki, Colleen Haddad, Penny Roberts, and George Balli. Donald Barnhart seconded the motion which carried by unanimous vote.
- D. Introductions** – Bob introduced Rocio Moncibais, Mayer Museum Curator, who provided an introduction to the two-year old museum and the current exhibits including the *Wearing the Blue: Buffalo Soldiers in the Frontier Army* exhibit. Rocio previously served as the Fort's Visitor Services Coordinator before receiving her Master's Degree in Museum Studies.
- E. Presentations** – None
- F. Public Comment** – None

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. Approval of the May 16, 2023 Minutes** – Donald Barnhart moved to approve the Minutes of May 16, 2023. Dr. Jason Pierce seconded the motion that carried unanimously.
- 2. Treasurer's Report** – Lisa Marley presented the financials for June 2023 noting that overall income was just a few hundred dollars more than last year and 3% above the past 10-year average. Admissions were less than 2022 due to more free/reduced days; however, the Gift Shop was up 100% over 2022. Year-to-date was up 3% over last year and 7% over the past 10-year average. Interest income continues to climb, rent was up 11%, and we are on course to meet total projections for the fiscal year. Overall expenses were near 63% at the 67% mark for the fiscal year. In summary, Year-to-Date Income as of June 30th was \$811,243 and Expenses were \$779,517 resulting in a positive balance of \$32,797. Dr. Jason Pierce moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Tracy Simpson seconded the motion that carried unanimously.

Yukio Kuniyuki arrived at 3:42 p.m.

- 3. Site Manager's Report** – Bob referred members to his written report in the agenda packet. He expressed concern regarding the air conditioning systems due to the extreme heat but noted they were currently in good shape. Seventeen applications had been received and were being reviewed for the archivist position for which it will take about a month to process including interviews. The Parade Ground flagpole had been delivered and will need to be painted before it is reinstalled by AEP.

III. REGULAR AGENDA: PUBLIC HEARING AND COMMENTS

4. Buffalo Soldier Exhibit and Board Consensus to Explore the Idea of a Traveling Exhibit – Bob encouraged Board Members to visit the exhibit noting that Dr. John Langellier, consultant on the exhibit, stated it was the best he has seen anywhere and feels it could be packaged for a traveling exhibit. Bob further noted that it will become a permanent exhibit at the Fort, in Barracks 1 or 2 in the future, but as a small exhibit in the Conference Room or Mess Hall 6 initially.

Penny Roberts arrived at 3:53 p.m.

Noting the possibility of the exhibit becoming a traveling exhibit, Bob noted that approaching colleges and universities would need to be explored but could be 2-3 years down the road. By consensus, the Board agreed to endorse the idea and asked staff to explore traveling exhibit options.

5. Staff Report – No report.

6. Review of Polo on the Concho and Plans for 2024 Event – Bob noted that Courtney Mahaffey, Executive Director for the San Angelo Symphony, was scheduled to attend to give a briefing. He noted that they do plan to hold the event again in 2024. Parade ground issues were minimal and the Symphony reimbursed the City for \$5,500 in water usage. Bob stated that he would be open to a similar agreement for 2024 that would again include water reimbursement.

Penny Roberts stated that the feedback she received was that it was a wonderful event that brought new attendees to the Fort.

Bob informed that all related expenses had been paid by the Symphony and that the event has been scheduled for the third week in March 2024. No dance would be held on the grounds due to the space having already been rented by another organization. He stated that he would extend an invitation to Courtney Mahaffey to attend the August meeting.

7. Report on Concho Mail Station (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob informed that Tom Ashmore provided an outstanding report to the City Council at their May 17th meeting. Council directed staff to proceed with a feasibility study (possibly utilizing college or university interns) and return to Council in 3-6 months with resources and options for moving forward with the project (including signage, parking, handicap access, etc.). Tom will remain the face of the project similar to Sherley Spears with the Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project. Bob noted that grant funding may be possible for this “diamond in the rough” due to its educational, historic, and cultural value.

8. Fort Concho Membership Drive Report (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob stated that we were two-thirds of the way toward our Membership goal and a second mailing in June would be followed by either calls or personal notes. He encouraged Board Members to submit names of potential members. Responding to Kathy Keane’s suggestion, Bob stated that he would email the Fort’s Brag Sheet used during the San Angelo Giving Day in May to Board Members for sharing with potential members.

9. Building and Grounds Report – No Report

10. Briefing on Oakes Street Bridge Closure and Repairs (Standing Agenda Item) – Bob informed that North/South signage was in place for the detour. Yukio Kuniyuki suggested the need for

additional signage traveling East on Concho. Sherley Spears suggested there be more permanent signage for the upcoming Buffalo Soldier Memorial Grand Opening and the Wild West Fest.

11. **Fort Concho Foundation Report** – No Report, Foundation will meet on August 15.
12. **Update on Barracks/Mess Hall 3-4 Reconstruction** – Bob informed that construction had begun on the porches and that the roofs and exteriors had been completed. He suggested that, if possible, a tour be conducted at the August Board Meeting with the meeting held in Barracks 6.
13. **Update on NAACP Buffalo Soldier Memorial Project** – Sherley Spears informed that all ten monuments had been installed and were awaiting the inserts. She expressed her sincere thanks to Dr. John Langellier for his superior support and consultation which was critical to the project and to Dr. Jason Pierce who serves on the Project’s Committee. Sherley reminded that all vendors for the project were local. Noting that our Buffalo Soldier Memorial is the one of its kind in Texas, Sherley asked Board Members to consider donating to the purchase of a bench or tree on behalf of the Fort Concho Board.

Sherley reviewed the activities for the July 28-30 Grand Opening and noted the need for a headcount for those planning to attend the Friday, July 28th dinner. She further provided a brief report on her recent inspiring visit to Snow Hill, Maryland for the town’s Juneteenth Celebration.

Bob reported that Board Member George Balli texted that he was dealing with vehicle issues at a shop.

14. **Future Agenda Items** – Bob stated that Courtney Mahaffey, Executive Director for the San Angelo Symphony, would be invited to attend and discuss a draft agreement for the 2024 *Polo on the Concho* event. Responding to the question of Kathy Keane, Bob stated that the matter of a new logo had fallen off the radar but could continue to be explored. He further suggested that the Board hear from the City’s PIO to discuss social media efforts including Instagram at the August Board Meeting.
15. **Approval to Cancel the July 18, 2023 Board Meeting** – Kathy Keane moved to cancel the July 18, 2023 Board Meeting. Sarah Cole seconded the motion that carried unanimously.
16. **Announcements** – The following announcements were made:

- June 22nd Western Art Show Begins
- July 3rd Lions Club Supper in the Stables
- July 4th Artillery Salute

Adjournment – Penny Roberts moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Jason Pierce seconded the motion that carried unanimously. Sherley Spears adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Kathy Keane

Kathy Keane, Board Secretary