

MINUTES OF THE MAY 26, 2015, ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

The Advancement Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) met on May 26, 2015, in the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, D.C. Participating were Committee Chair Alan G. Spoon* and Committee members Ambassador Barbara Barrett*; Sakurako Fisher*; Adrienne Mars*; John W. McCarter, Jr.*; Paul Neely*; David Rubenstein*; and Christine Udvar-Hazy*.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Acting Secretary Albert Horvath; Acting Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Office of the Regents Writer-Editor Julie Bindelglass (recorder); Smithsonian Campaign Director Cynthia Brandt-Stover; Director of Advancement and Philanthropic Giving Virginia Clark; Deputy Director of the Office of Advancement Zully Dorr; Inspector General Cathy Helm*; Senior Advisor to the Secretary Evelyn Lieberman; Associate General Counsel Farleigh Earhart; and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson*.

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Alan Spoon called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. He welcomed Greg Bettwy and Evelyn Lieberman and congratulated them on their new positions in the Office of the Secretary. Mr. Spoon also recognized Albert Horvath for his work as acting secretary.

He then reviewed the agenda and provided the Committee with an overview of the latest Smithsonian Campaign Steering Committee meeting, which was held on May 5, 2015, at the National Museum of Natural History.

APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 12, 2015, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the draft minutes of the March 12, 2015, Committee meeting were approved without modification.

ACTING SECRETARY’S UPDATE

Acting Secretary Albert Horvath updated the Committee on preparation for the installation of the Smithsonian’s 13th Secretary, Dr. David Skorton. He also informed the Committee of the searches for a new Under Secretary for Science, and new Directors for the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service and the Smithsonian Science Education Center. Mr. Horvath noted that the Smithsonian Science Education Center held its 30th anniversary gala on May 14, 2015, where he had the opportunity to meet with potential new donors. Mr. Horvath concluded his report with an update on the status of the Smithsonian presence in London.

**participated by telephone*

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS

Director of Advancement and Philanthropic Giving Virginia Clark provided an update on the progress of the Smithsonian Campaign (“Campaign”). Ms. Clark reported that since its launch, the Campaign has raised a total of \$1.171 billion. Ms. Clark pointed out that \$323 million had been raised toward the Endowment, which has helped to create and support 85 positions at the Smithsonian. She noted that for fiscal year 2015 fundraising had reached raised approximately \$136 million toward the \$200 million annual goal. Ms. Clark also reviewed the progress of several science units, highlighting those that have reached 75 percent or more of their unit’s campaign goal. She then reviewed fundraising progress for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, and highlighted several notable gifts and grants.

Director of the Smithsonian Campaign Cynthia Brandt-Stover reviewed campaign outreach and regional events. The Committee asked for a list of upcoming campaign events, so that they may participate. Ms. Brandt-Stover also presented and discussed the first campaign newsletter, which was recently sent to the public. The Committee was informed that member Sakurako Fisher has agreed to serve as a co-chair of the Campaign.

FY2015 – FY2017: FOCUS ON THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Ms. Clark briefed the Committee on an analysis of Smithsonian donors. The Committee went on to review and discuss the science units’ campaign goals. At its next meeting, the Committee will consider the history, art, and culture units.

REVIEW OF NOTABLE GIFTS AND GRANTS

There being no gifts pending the Committee’s approval, Ms. Clark reviewed recent notable gifts and grants.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Spoon reminded the Committee of the next meeting, which is tentatively scheduled for September 15, 2015. He also announced that the Smithsonian Campaign would be hosting events in Boston, San Francisco, and Minneapolis in the coming weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan G. Spoon, Chair