

## MINUTES OF THE JUNE 15, 2011, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“the Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution met on June 15, 2011, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C., to discuss the agenda for the June 27, 2011, meeting of the Board of Regents. In attendance were Chancellor of the Board of Regents John G. Roberts Jr., Chief Justice of the United States; Board Chair Patricia Q. Stonesifer, Vice Chair Alan G. Spoon, and Robert P. Kogod (Mr. Kogod’s reappointment to the Board is currently under consideration by the Congress). Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary G. Wayne Clough, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Patricia Bartlett, Chief of Staff to the Regents John K. Lapiana, and General Counsel Judith Leonard.

Ms. Stonesifer called the meeting to order and expressed the Committee’s appreciation to the Chancellor for being able to set aside time during the Court’s busiest time of the term. Ms. Stonesifer added that Mr. Kogod was attending the meeting as a participant, rather than as a full member, since his reappointment, as well as that of Shirley Ann Jackson, was still pending in the Congress.

She then noted that the proposed agenda closely follows the agenda approved for the April 11, 2011, Board meeting. That meeting that was cancelled in light of a possible Federal government-wide shutdown, and an Executive Committee meeting was conducted in its stead. During that meeting, the Executive Committee approved all then-pending action items, and left the anticipated deeper discussions on strategic topics until the June 2011 meeting.

### MORNING SESSION

#### Report of the Chair of the Board and Executive Committee

Ms. Stonesifer said the meeting will begin a brief formal report of the Chair of the Board and the Executive Committee. The Report will be brief and will highlight the results from the annual advisory board chair retreat to be held on June 15, 2011. The retreat is jointly hosted by the Regents and the Secretary and over 75 percent of Smithsonian advisory board chairs are expected to participate.

As part of the report, Regent John McCarter will discuss the Secretary’s response to the Regents’ Exhibition Policy Review Panel report following the *Hide/Seek* controversy. Mr. McCarter chaired that panel.

Ms. Stonesifer said she also plans to lead a discussion on developing a Board response to the recently released report of the Presidential Commission on the establishment of an American Latino museum.

#### Strategic Plan Progress Report

The majority of the Regents’ morning session will be devoted to a “deep-dive” discussion on the progress achieved under the Smithsonian strategic plan. This exercise was originally scheduled

for the April 11 Board meeting and most of the materials in the book have been updated to reflect additional progress over the last two months. As part of implementation of the strategic plan, Ms. Stonesifer said that the Regents will be asked to approve the branding strategy, including both internal and external taglines.

### **Director's Report**

At lunch, Bill Moggridge, the director of Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, will present his observations on the opportunities and challenges facing that museum. The Regents will also take this opportunity to honor Doris Matsui for her work as a Regent.

## **AFTERNOON SESSION**

### **Financial Reports**

Ms. Stonesifer noted that the afternoon session will begin with a focus on the Smithsonian's financial activities. First will be the quarterly financial snapshot presented by Under Secretary for Finance and Administration Alison McNally and Acting Chief Financial Officer Bruce Dauer. The Committee expects that there will be some discussion at this point on the Federal budget outlook.

### **Investment Committee Report**

Investment Committee Chair David Silfen will the present the Report of the Investment Committee. The Executive Committee reviewed an update on the Endowment. The Endowment was valued at \$1.07 billion on March 31, 2011, the end of the first quarter.

### **Advancement Committee Report**

Mr. Spoon will then present the report of the Advancement Committee, which, he noted, would conduct a meeting later in the day. Mr. Spoon will present an update on the planning for the national campaign and, assuming Advancement Committee agreement, a series of gifts to the Board for its approval.

### **Strategic Planning and Programs Committee Report**

Ms. Stonesifer explained that Strategic Planning and Programs Committee Chair France Córdova will brief the Board on that committee's review of two potentially sensitive exhibitions: *Shipwrecked—Tang Treasures and Monsoon Winds* at the Arthur M. Sackler Gallery (planned for 2012) and *HIV and AIDS 30 Years Ago* at the National Museum of American History (opened June 4, 2011). Dr. Córdova will also alert the Board about the possible acquisition of a major collection.

### **Other Regular Agenda Items**

The last four agenda topics will focus on the Board's regular business: (1) the presentation by the Under Secretaries on research highlights; (2) the report of the Smithsonian National Board (SNB) by SNB Chair Paul Neely; (3) the Report of the Office of Government Relations; and (4)

consideration of the appointment of advisory board members on the recommendation of the Governance and Nominating Committee.

**Executive Session Topics**

Ms. Stonesifer noted that the Inspector General has requested time in the Executive Session to discuss ongoing investigations and audits. The Secretary indicated that he may discuss a personnel matter, potential major donations to the Smithsonian, and the status of the search for a new Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Stonesifer  
Chair