

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8, 2020, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a videoconference meeting on October 8, 2020. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case; and Committee member David M. Rubenstein.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Lonnie Bunch, Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester, General Counsel Judith Leonard, Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer Meroë Park, and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

CALL TO ORDER

Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr., called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m.

Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case reviewed the agenda, which consisted primarily of an overview of the October 19, 2020, meeting of the Board of Regents.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the September 9, 2020, meeting without modification.

OVERVIEW OF THE OCTOBER 19, 2020, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Regents’ Business Meeting

Report of the Chair and Executive Committee: Steve Case will deliver the report of the Chair and Executive Committee. He plans to update the Board on the Regents’ 2020 annual public forum and the Smithsonian advisory board annual meeting. Mr. Case also will review the motions approved by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Next, the Regents will be asked to approve the Consent Agenda. Action items on the Consent Agenda for the October 19 meeting include approval of the August 2020 Board meeting minutes and gifts and naming recognitions.

Questions on Written Committee Reports: The Regents will then have an opportunity to ask questions regarding the written reports submitted by the Advancement Committee; Audit and Review Committee; Compensation and Human Resources Committee; Facilities Committee; Finance Committee; Investment Committee; Strategy, Innovation, and Technology Committee; and Office of Government Relations.

Report of the Governance and Nominating Committee: Governance and Nominating Committee Chair John Fahey will deliver the report of the Governance and Nominating Committee. The Board will be asked to review and approve a reappointment to the Smithsonian National Latino Board and proposed amendments to the Bylaws of the Board of Regents.

Strategic Discussions: Budget Impact of COVID-19, Reopening, New Normal: Next, the Secretary will update the Board on the impact of COVID-19 (the Coronavirus) on the Institution. The Regent discussions will be divided into three main topics: the budgetary impact and ongoing mitigation efforts, reopening progress, and the Smithsonian’s new normal.

Strategic Report of the Secretary: Secretary Lonnie Bunch will deliver the Strategic Report of the Secretary and update the Board on the state of the Smithsonian, including his strategic vision and priorities under the One Smithsonian approach. His report will focus on enhanced education activities; the Race, Community, and Our Shared Future Initiative; building a nimble, cost-effective, and responsive administrative core; and advancing the Virtual Smithsonian.

Executive Session with Secretary: The Board will then move into an executive session with the Secretary to discuss personnel, business matters, and legal advice. The Board will review and approve the proposed appointments and reappointments to Smithsonian advisory boards.

Executive Session: The Board will continue its deliberations in a Regents-only executive session, during which the Board will consider the Board leadership for 2021 and a proposed appointment to a Regent Committee. The Board will also receive an update on the search for a new citizen Regent.

Executive Session: The Board will conclude the meeting with its regular “gatekeeper” session, which will provide an opportunity for the Board to hear from the General Counsel, Assistant Under Secretary for Finance and Administration, Inspector General, and Secretary.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider and no request for an executive session, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:22 p.m.

EMAIL BALLOT

The Executive Committee voted to approve the following motion on behalf of the Board of Regents, according to Board Bylaw 3.01, because the Board was not in session. The appointment required approval by the Executive Committee, prior to the Board meeting in October, to accommodate the appointment term. The motion was approved via email ballot completed on September 25, 2020.

VOTED that the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01, appoints Jorge Puente as a Vice Chair of the Smithsonian National Board for a one-year term, effective October 1, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Case, Chair