

## MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 8, 2022, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) conducted a videoconference meeting on November 8, 2022. Participating were Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case, Vice Chair Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, and Committee member John Fahey.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Lonnie Bunch; Counselor to the Chief Justice Robert M. Dow, Jr.; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester; Special Assistant to the Regents Mallory Gianola (recorder); General Counsel Judith Leonard; Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer Meroë Park; and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

### CALL TO ORDER

Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda. Mr. Case acknowledged that General Counsel Judith Leonard will be retiring from her role at the Smithsonian in February 2023. The Committee recognized Ms. Leonard for her 12 years of service to the Smithsonian and the Board.

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the draft minutes of the October 13, 2022, Committee meeting were approved.

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHARTER

Mr. Case then presented proposed amendments to the Executive Committee Charter. As part of its restructuring, the Strategy, Innovation, and Technology (“SIT”) Committee is modifying its responsibilities to focus on duties related to innovation and technology strategies and strategic collaborations and partnerships. The refocus includes reassigning some of the committee’s current duties to other Regent committees. It was proposed that one of the duties outlined in the Strategy, Innovation, and Technology Committee’s Charter be reassigned to the Executive Committee. The Committee reviewed the proposed amendments, to include overseeing the development, periodic refreshment, and implementation of a pan-Institutional strategic plan. Mr. Case informed the Committee that the SIT Committee could continue to advise on particular initiatives or aspects of the strategic plan related to innovation and technology.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved:

**VOTED** that the Executive Committee recommends approval by the Governance and Nominating Committee of the proposed amendments to the Executive Committee Charter.

## **REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

The Secretary then provided an update on the state of the Smithsonian. The Secretary first briefed the Committee on a ransomware incident with Ability Commerce, a third-party service provider that is used by the Smithsonian to assist with e-commerce management. The Office of the Chief Information Officer (“OCIO”) has been working with Ability Commerce to assess and monitor the impact. The Secretary informed the Committee that to date no Smithsonian privacy data had been impacted.

Next, Secretary Bunch updated the Committee on the Smithsonian’s participation in the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference. The COP 27 will take place from November 6 – 18, 2022, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. Smithsonian participants included Under Secretary for Science and Research Ellen Stofan, Ira Rubinoff Director of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute Josh Tewksbury, and Sant Director of the National Museum of Natural History Kirk Johnson. In conjunction with the conference, the Smithsonian will be releasing an updated statement on climate change and announcing the launch of the “Life on a Sustainable Planet” Climate Change Initiative.

To conclude the Secretary led a discussion with the Committee on site selection for the two new museums: National Museum of the American Latino and Smithsonian American Women’s History Initiative. The Board of Regents announced in October that it has narrowed its focus to two optimal sites with the greatest potential based on site-selection evaluative criteria and stakeholder input. These sites include the South Monument site and Tidal Basin site. The Committee discussed the December 2022 deadline for site selection and the legislative action that will be necessary before the Board of Regents can make its final designations.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Committee moved into an executive session at approximately 1:37 p.m. to discuss year-end performance evaluations.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Case, Chair