

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 16, 2017, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) met on March 16, 2017, at the Supreme Court of the United States (“Court”) in Washington, D.C. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Board and Executive Committee Chair David Rubenstein; Vice Chair Steve Case; and Committee Member Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Regent Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson; Secretary Skorton; Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Sant Director of the National Museum of Natural History Kirk Johnson; General Counsel Judith Leonard; and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Rubenstein called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00 a.m.

Mr. Rubenstein thanked the Chancellor for hosting the meeting and outlined the agenda for the morning, which consisted primarily of the presentation and discussion of the Smithsonian’s new strategic plan for 2017 – 2022, followed by an overview of the April 3, 2017, strategic meeting of the Board of Regents.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE SMITHSONIAN’S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategic Planning Committee Co-Chairs, Regent Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson and Sant Director of the National Museum of Natural History Dr. Kirk Johnson presented the Committee the latest draft of the Smithsonian’s new Strategic Plan. The Committee was also provided with an overview of the planning process to develop the new plan and the steps taken to compile, analyze, and incorporate data from across the Smithsonian. The Committee expects that the new plan will be presented to the full Board for consideration at its April 3, 2017, strategic meeting.

OVERVIEW OF APRIL STRATEGIC MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Smithsonian Academy Program and Dinner

On Sunday, April 2, the Regents will host a dinner for the Smithsonian Academy at the National Museum of African American History and Culture (“NMAAHC”). This will be the Smithsonian Academy’s second signature event, following last year’s inaugural program. Regent Ambassador Barbara Barrett and Dr. Craig Barrett are co-chairs of the Smithsonian Academy, and in conjunction with the Office of Advancement, have arranged for a weekend of events, which will include a tour of the *Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors* exhibition at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden followed by an afternoon program on religion and the shaping of America. The afternoon will also feature a candid conversation between Mr. Rubenstein and Founder and President of Interfaith Youth Core Eboo Patel.

Smithsonian Next: The Future of Technology at the Smithsonian

On Monday, April 3, the Board will convene at the Microsoft Innovation and Policy Center located on K Street in Washington, D.C. for its second annual strategic meeting. The morning program is called Smithsonian Next: The Future of Technology at the Smithsonian. The goal of the program is to help Smithsonian leadership understand and experience a variety of technological devices and to discuss future possibilities for integrating these advances into the Institution. While the Smithsonian is already doing work in this area, the event's goal is to give directors and senior management an opportunity to better understand the potential application of digital tools both in-gallery and online through hands-on experience and open-ended discussion with industry leaders.

Technology Demonstrations: Regents and Smithsonian leadership will begin the day at Microsoft where participants will be given the opportunity to test emerging technologies from eight innovative companies. Regent Michael Lynton will open the program and provide an overview of the technology being presented so that participants can better understand the landscape and have a frame of reference for the technologies, before exploring them at their own pace. The technologies presented will include Artificial Intelligence, Augmented Reality Experiences, 3D Digitization, and Interactive Print/Installations.

Conversations: Following the demonstrations, all participants including Regents, Smithsonian leadership, and company representatives will convene for open-ended discussions about their experiences with the technologies and the most promising applications for the Smithsonian to enhance the visitor experience, amplify storytelling around exhibits, and increase visitor access broadly.

Lunch: Following a casual lunch, Regents, and senior leadership will then split from company representatives to conduct a business session, while representatives participate in a behind-the-scenes tour of the Smithsonian's exhibits and collections.

Regents' Afternoon Business Meeting

Review and Discussion of the Smithsonian's New Strategic Plan: The majority of the afternoon business meeting will focus on the Smithsonian's new strategic plan. Dr. Jackson and Dr. Johnson will deliver a presentation of the final draft of the proposed plan for 2017 – 2022. Regents will then discuss the plan and consider next steps with regard to formal approval.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Next, the Board will move to the approval of the Consent Agenda. Action items listed on the Consent Agenda for the April 3, 2017, meeting include: the minutes of the January 30, 2017, Regents' meeting; the amendments to bylaws of the NMAAHC Council; the appointment and reappointment of candidates to nine Smithsonian Advisory Boards; and the approval of five gifts, and the establishment of a quasi-endowment at the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Report of the Secretary: Secretary Skorton will then deliver his report on the State of the Smithsonian.

Report of the Governance and Nominating Committee: Committee Chair Ambassador Barbara Barrett will then present the report of the Governance and Nominating Committee. She will provide an update on the status of appointments for the two Citizen Regent nominees, Michael Govan and Roger Ferguson, and the reappointment of Steve Case for his second Regent term, as his current term expires on April 25, 2017. The Board will also review the results from the 2016 self-assessment.

Executive Session: The Board will then go into an executive session, during which the Smithsonian’s “gatekeepers,” including the Inspector General, Secretary, and General Counsel, will have an opportunity to raise issues they consider appropriate for Regent discussion or information.

Smithsonian Next Closing Reception

Following the afternoon business meeting, Regents, Smithsonian leadership, and company representatives will reconvene at the Arts & Industries Building on the National Mall for a casual reception to close the Smithsonian Next program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee then conducted an executive session to receive a litigation update.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:40 p.m. to a working lunch, which was held at the Court and attended by the Chancellor, members of the Committee, Mr. Minear, the Secretary, and Ms. Wilkinson.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rubenstein
Chair