# MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 11, 2018, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee ("Committee") of the Board of Regents ("Board") of the Smithsonian Institution ("Smithsonian") met on October 11, 2018, at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, DC. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Vice Chair Steve Case; and Committee member Dr. Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary David Skorton, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester, General Counsel Judith Leonard, 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 Vice Chair Steve Case thanked the Chancellor for hosting the meeting and outlined the agenda for the morning, which consisted primarily of an overview of the October 22, 2018, 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 5, 2018, teleconference meeting without modification.

# OVERVIEW OF THE OCTOBER 22, 2018, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

## Regents' Dinner

On Sunday evening, the Board of Regents, the Chair of the Smithsonian National Board, and the Secretary will convene for a dinner at the National Postal Museum. Prior to the dinner, Regents will hear brief remarks from the Director of the National Postal Museum, Elliot Gruber, and have the opportunity to view select objects from an upcoming exhibition.

#### Regents' Morning Tour

On Monday, October 22, prior to the start of the business meeting, the Sant Director of the National Museum of Natural History Dr. Kirk Johnson will lead a behind the scenes tour of the museum's highly anticipated new exhibition the *David H. Koch Hall of Fossils — Deep Time*. Dr. Johnson will offer insight on the Fossil Hall renovation, the largest and most complex renovation in the museum's history, and highlight the chronological narrative of earth's fossil record as told through the new exhibit.

## Regents' Morning Business Meeting

**Executive Session:** The Board will convene in the Regents' Room of the Smithsonian Castle for its October business meeting. To begin, Governance and Nominating Committee Chair Barbara Barrett will lead an executive session to discuss and vote on the 2019 Board Leadership Elections. The current Executive Committee has been recommended for reappointment by the Governance and Nominating Committee. Following the leadership discussion and vote, the Regents will review the 2018 governance report, which highlights the actions of the Board since the previous report that have continued to strengthen the management, leadership, and transparency of the Institution.

**Report of the Chair:** Chair David Rubenstein will deliver the report of the Chair and Executive Committee. At this time, he will update the Board on the Smithsonian Congressional dinner cohosted with the Library of Congress in September, the Regents' annual public forum following the Board meeting to announce the Smithsonian Year of Music, and the Advisory Board Symposium in November, which will bring together unit advisory board chairs and Smithsonian senior leadership.

Approval of the Consent Agenda: Next, the Board will move to the approval of the Consent Agenda. The action items listed on the Consent Agenda for the October 22 meeting include recognition of Lori Yarrish, former Director of the Anacostia Community Museum; approval of the minutes of the June 11, 2018, Regents' meeting; Charter amendments for the Executive, Audit and Review, and Facilities Committees; amendments to the bylaws of the Smithsonian American Art Museum Commission; amendments to the bylaws of the National Museum of African Art Advisory Board; appointment and reappointment of candidates to 13 Smithsonian advisory boards; and gifts and naming recognitions.

**Questions on Written Reports:** Following approval of the Consent Agenda, Chairs of the Audit and Review Committee; Compensation and Human Resources Committee; Facilities Committee; Finance Committee; Governance and Nominating Committee; Investment Committee; Strategy, Innovation, and Technology Committee; and the Director for the Office of Government Relations will entertain questions from Regents on the information provided in their written reports.

**Report of the Advancement Committee:** Committee Chair Christine Udvar-Hazy and Assistant Secretary for Advancement Rob Spiller will deliver the Advancement Committee report. The Board will be briefed on post-Campaign activities and the opportunities, challenges, and strategies planned for the next chapter of advancement at the Smithsonian.

**Report of the Secretary:** Following a morning break, Secretary Skorton will report on the state of the Smithsonian and provide the Board with an update on the UCLA report on Latino representation within the Smithsonian that was issued in September 2018, and diversity and inclusion, and the Smithsonian Year of Music 2019.

Luncheon Program – Conversation about Smithsonian Communications Strategies: During lunch, Chair David Rubenstein will lead a conversation with Smithsonian leadership focusing on the Institution's communications and branding strategies. Panelists in this conversation will include Julissa Marenco, Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs; Rachel Goslins, Director of the Arts and Industries Building; and Stephanie Stebich, Director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

# Regents' Afternoon Business Meeting

**Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative:** To begin the afternoon session, Provost John Davis and Stephanie Stebich, Co-Chair of the Initiative and Director of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, will provide an update on the Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative, including the work of specific committees that are focused on curation, digital strategy, and education.

**Update on Strategic Plan Implementation:** The Secretary will then lead a discussion regarding implementation of the Smithsonian's Strategic Plan, including a recap of the Smithsonian's second leadership retreat, which focused on priority actions, timelines, and performance indicators for goals two through six.

**World Economic Forum:** Next, the Secretary and Molly Fannon, Director of the Office of International Relations, will give an update on the Smithsonian's global programs, specifically the Institution's collaboration with the World Economic Forum.

**Executive Session**: The Board will conclude the meeting with an executive session, during which the Smithsonian's "gatekeepers," including the General Counsel, Chief Operating Officer, Inspector General, and Secretary will have an opportunity to raise issues for discussion or information directly with the Regents.

**Public Forum**: Following the executive session, the meeting will adjourn and the Regents will gather at the Freer Gallery of Art's Meyer Auditorium for the Regents' 2018 annual public forum and public announcement of the Smithsonian Year of Music.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rubenstein, Chair