

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2018, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) conducted a teleconference meeting on December 12, 2018. Participating were Vice Chair Steve Case and Executive Committee member Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey. Board and Executive Committee Chair David Rubenstein was unable to attend. In accordance with the Committee Charter, Vice Chair Steve Case acted in Mr. Rubenstein’s stead.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary David Skorton, 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, Special Assistant to the Regents Mallory Gianola (recorder), General Counsel Judith Leonard, and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

CALL TO ORDER

Steve Case called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and welcomed members and staff participating by telephone.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the November 15, 2018, Committee meeting without modification.

APPROVAL OF DINING HALL NAMING AT SMITHSONIAN TROPICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Committee reviewed one naming opportunity for the researchers’ dining hall at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute’s Bocas del Toro Research Station. The Committee was asked to approve the naming of the Anthony G. Coates Dining Hall, in recognition of Dr. Coates’ role in the Smithsonian research community as a mentor, collaborator, and leader. Mr. Case noted that typically naming opportunities are presented to the Advancement Committee, however, this naming opportunity is not donor-related, and therefore the Executive Committee is being asked to recommend approval to the full Board. He also noted that the proposed space naming adheres to Smithsonian directives and policies.

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

VOTED that the Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Regents recognizes the contributions of Anthony G. Coates to the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and names the Anthony G. Coates Dining Hall, for a period of 20 years or until the next major renovation, whichever occurs later.

RECOGNITION OF GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Mr. Case presented two motions of recognition for the Committee's consideration. First, the Committee was asked to honor and remember the life of George Herbert Walker Bush. From 1981 to 1989, George H.W. Bush served as an ex officio member of the Board of Regents, serving as a duty of his office as Vice President of the United States. Mr. Case acknowledged that in memory of George Herbert Walker Bush, the National Portrait Gallery added a drape of black crepe to his portrait in the America's Presidents gallery. Visitors may pay their respects and record their thoughts in a journal next to the portrait.

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

VOTED that the Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Regents expresses its profound appreciation to the memory of George Herbert Walker Bush, former U.S. president, vice president, congressman, war hero, public servant, and Regent; and approves the grateful recognition of the extraordinary service he provided on behalf of the American people and the Smithsonian Institution.

RECOGNITION OF JEANNINE SMITH CLARK

The Committee was also asked to honor and remember the life of Jeannine Smith Clark, Regent Emeritus. Jeannine Smith Clark began her fifty years of service to the Smithsonian as a volunteer docent at the National Museum of Natural History in 1968. Most notably, she served with distinction on the Board of Regents from 1983 to 1994, during which time, she was the only African-American member of the Board and third woman to serve as a Regent.

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

VOTED that the Executive Committee recommends that the Board of Regents approves the recognition and expresses its profound appreciation to the memory of Jeannine Smith Clark, Regent Emeritus, community activist, distinguished philanthropist, and renowned educator; and extends its heartfelt sympathies to her family, friends, and colleagues.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary briefed the Committee on significant facilities work planned at the Anacostia Community Museum. Renovations will include exterior site design and security upgrades, as well as interior lighting upgrades. Due to the complexity of museum access and security for the public and staff, the museum will close during the construction. The Secretary and his team are planning offsite programming and exhibitions that will take place for the duration of the

museum's closure, culminating in a grand re-opening of the museum. More details regarding the timing will be shared once available.

Secretary Skorton asked his Chief of Staff Greg Bettwy to update the Committee on the impact of the potential federal government shutdown. Currently the Smithsonian is being funded through a Continuing Resolution ("CR"), which will expire on December 21, 2018. In the event of a shutdown, the Smithsonian plans to use fiscal year 2018 carry-forward funds to maintain normal operations through approximately January 1, 2019. If a funding bill is not passed by that date, the Smithsonian will adhere to standard shutdown operations under the guidance of the Office of Management and Budget.

Mr. Bettwy also updated the Committee on a five-year lease expansion opportunity for the Victor Building, which is a rental facility that houses administrative offices for the Archives of American Art, National Portrait Gallery, and Smithsonian American Art Museum. The current lease is set to expire in 2020. The Smithsonian will seek approval from the Facilities Committee and subsequently the full Board, to take advantage of the five-year leasing opportunity.

To conclude his report, the Secretary updated the Committee on the Smithsonian's investment in the SNI/SI Network LLC ("Smithsonian Channel").

PUBLIC RECORDS REQUEST

General Counsel Judith Leonard reviewed a public records request that was received from the Washington Post regarding the Smithsonian's international collaboration with the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. The Office of General Counsel will respond in accordance with the Smithsonian's records disclosure policy.

REVIEW OF JANUARY BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson reviewed the preliminary draft of the agenda for the January 2019 meeting of the Board of Regents. Although topics are being finalized, the January meeting agenda will likely include the following items: (1) the annual compensation review for the Secretary and senior executives, (2) proposed recommendations for 2019 committee chairmanships and membership, (3) a workshop on Institutional culture, and (4) an update from the Office of Government Relations, focusing on their work with the Executive branch and Congress.

SMITHSONIAN CONGRESSIONAL DINNERS

In September 2018, the Smithsonian co-hosted a Congressional Dialogues event at the Library of Congress. The focus of the event was on educating members of Congress about science at the Smithsonian, in particular the work the Institution does in astronomy and astrophysics. Ms.

Wilkinson shared positive feedback from the event, highlighting good Congressional engagement with more than 100 members of Congress in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee moved into an executive session at approximately 1:26 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Case, Vice Chair