Colorado Humanities Board of Directors Meeting
October 6, 2017
Holland and Hart, LLP
555 17th St. #3200, Denver

Present: Dahlin, Bantis, Best, Hurley (by phone), Kirkpatrick, Lee, Mason, Miller, Nelson, Tate
Absent: Ballantine, Cunningham, Garcia, Rodriguez
Staff: Coval, Albright, Jones, Tucker

1. **Board Business** (Dahlin)
   Dahlin greeted those present, expressing appreciation to those who were able to attend. She announced the first order of business, to elect a new board member.

   Motion by Dahlin on behalf of the Nominating Committee to elect Becky Hurley to the Colorado Humanities Board of Directors for a four-year term.
   Vote: Unanimously approved (Ballantine and Garcia tendered votes digitally)

   Taffy Lee introduced herself to those who had not been present at the September board meeting. Introductions were made around the table.

2. **Blue Sky workshop introduction and summary of programs** (Miller)
   Miller provided an overview of the meeting process, explaining that the goal is to select eight to ten programs to consider for the 2019-2023 plan. Nelson added that the programs selected should be designed to satisfy the revised major objectives.

   Nelson provided an overview of the Blue Sky process to date, including the statewide listening tour which was conducted in order to learn how CH might better serve Colorado communities. He noted that the project sprang from the desire to increase Board engagement in CH program offerings. He reported that the current NEH 5-year plan would end October 31, 2018. The NEH site visit has been scheduled for September 18. Details of the next 5-year plan will be included in the CH report to NEH in August.

   Jones reviewed current programs, noting that Writers in the Schools is on hiatus due to a lack of funding, and further development of Colorado Encyclopedia is paused for funding.

   Miller explained the proposed new programs, noting that Towards Right Relationships with Native Peoples and Democracy Labs are already developed offerings that could be purchased from other sources. He said that some items, such as Speakers Bureau, were determined to be vehicles for delivering a variety of programs.

   Discussion followed.

3. **Small group discussions of assigned programs** (Facilitators: Dahlin, Miller, Nelson)
The Board divided into small groups to review each potential program.

Nelson explained that the small groups should decide which programs they feel best satisfy CH's major objectives. Discussion should include whether they agree with the cost benefit analysis document major objectives score given to current programs.

Coval instructed that each discussion group would review a pre-determined selection of programs from the list of potential offerings. Delivery vehicles will not be a topic for discussion, but all groups should consider the idea of regional humanities councils. She announced the groups as follows:

Group 1: Neil Best, Michel Dahlin, Foxie Mason
Group 2: Charlie Bantis, Susan Kirkpatrick, Adrian Miller
Group 3: Taffy Lee, Thor Nelson, Paulette Tate

4. **Small group reports** (Dahlin, Miller, Nelson)
The Board reconvened as a whole. Miller asked each group to share their conclusions on a program by program basis. Further in-depth discussion followed.

5. **Review programs rank list** (Nelson)
At this point Hurley joined the meeting by phone. Nelson had adjusted major objectives rankings for each program during the previous discussion. Following lunch he presented a spreadsheet that detailed staff and small group rankings, staffing requirements, and costs for each program. Notes included comments, remaining questions, and recommendations. Discussion followed.

6. **Develop semi-final list of programs**
The Board discussed program costs in an effort to determine which assortment of programs could be implemented within the constraints of the recently approved FY2018 budget. It was determined that CH does not have the capacity for continued financial support of the Colorado Encyclopedia.

Motion by Mason to develop, over the next eight months, a process for reducing CH's role in Colorado Encyclopedia or a strategy for exit in the coming years.
Seconded by Kirkpatrick
Vote: 5 For, 4 Against, 0 Abstentions
Approved

Motion by Nelson to retain all programs relative to the Center for the Book with the exception of Writers in the Schools.
Seconded by Tate
Vote: Unanimously approved

Motion by Tate to retain all Chautauqua programs while considering regional needs and local cost contributions.
Seconded by Mason
Vote: Unanimously approved

Motion by Tate to retain Museum on Main Street.
Seconded by Miller
Vote: 6 For, 2 Against, 1 Abstention
Approved

There was consensus on exploring ways to combine the race and ethnicity programs, Black History Live, Latino Heritage Live, Toward Right Relationships with Native Peoples, with Legacy of Race.

A final list of eighteen potential programs will be shared with communities for feedback during the Blue Sky return tour in November. They are: War Stories, Motheread/Fatheread Colorado, Colorado Book Awards, River of Words, Letters About Literature, Young Chautauqua, High Plains Chautauqua, Durango Chautauqua, Two Rivers Chautauqua, Museum on Main Street, Democracy Labs, Five States Film, Talking About Dying, Black History Live, Latino Heritage Live, Toward Right Relationships with Native Peoples, Legacy of Race and Ethnicity, and Regional Humanities Councils.

Nelson will finalize and distribute a spreadsheet of the results of the meeting

7. **Other business**
   There was no other business.

Adjourned.

The Board of Directors Minutes have been signed and approved on this 20th day of March 2018.

by: Margaret A. Coval
Margaret A. Coval
Executive Director, Corporate Secretary
Colorado Humanities