

Museum Board Special Meeting July 28, 2010
Minutes

Present: Tama Olver (Secretary), John Pearce (Vice Chair), Sue Renz (Chair), Esther Trosow, Ken Cuneo (City Council Liaison), Geva Arcanin (Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History Foundation Board Liaison)

Members of the Public: Frances Grate, Bruce Obbink, Judd Perry (Secretary, Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History Foundation Board)

Chair Sue Renz called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

I. REVISION OF COUNCIL POLICY 200-5

Sue Renz noted that board members Olver, Pearce, and Renz had submitted draft policies each taking a different approach.

Esther Trosow read a statement into the record related to revision of the policy (Attachment 1 to these minutes).

A. Relationship between the Policy and the Lease Agreement

In the interests of efficiency, we agreed that Policy 200-5 would refer to, rather than duplicate, language that appears in the Lease Agreement between the City of Pacific Grove and the Foundation. We also agreed that it should be easy for people who read the policy to access content of the Lease Agreement associated with such references. Specifically:

- When the policy is posted online, references to the Lease Agreement should be linked to corresponding language in the Lease Agreement
- When hard copy of the policy is made available to the public, a copy of the Lease Agreement should be attached.

B. Merging the three drafts into a final draft

John Pearce moved that “item ‘1. General’ from the paper drafted by John Pearce be accepted for the final draft with removal of ‘and maintaining’ in the second sentence.” The motion was adopted.

Tama Olver moved that “Item 2 will be titled ‘Museum Board’ and item 2.A will be titled ‘Purpose’ and be a word-for-word statement of our adopted Purpose.” The motion was adopted.

We agreed that item 2.B would be titled “Organization.”

John Pearce moved that “the Organization section be completed by adopting Section G of the draft prepared by Sue Renz and inserting everything in Tama

Olver's draft section 2.A, excluding the first paragraph, between the two paragraphs [of Item G]." The motion was adopted.

We agreed to remove "in writing" in the last sentence of the second paragraph of Olver's draft Section 2.A.

We agreed to add "provided by the Foundation to the City" to the bulleted item beginning "Reviews of museum plans and operations" after the word "operations."

We agreed to add a bullet after the bullet beginning "Reviews of museum plans and operations" as follows: "Periodic review of accreditation."

We agreed that inclusion in the policy of a "Communications" section is important and that it would be Section 3.

To create content for the Communications section, Tama Olver moved "to adopt item 7 in Pearse's draft:

- Changing 'Museum Director' to 'Executive Director of the Foundation'
- Removing 'usually' from the first sentence, and
- Adding item I.iv from Renz's draft removing 'and coordinated' from the first sentence and changing 'and activities' to 'and programs.'"

The motion was adopted. Esther Trosow voted "Nay." During discussion she stated that failure to require certain regular meetings between the Museum Board Chair and leadership of the Foundation (items I.i and I.iii in Renz's draft) would adversely affect accreditation.

We agreed that the section on accreditation in the current policy would not be included in the new draft because we cannot compel action on the part of the Foundation that is not required by the Lease Agreement. We also agreed that accreditation is very important and should be on the agenda of a future board meeting.

We agreed to include the item on Evaluation from Olver's draft as item 4.

C. Next steps.

We agreed that the Secretary will prepare a final draft incorporating all agreements and adopted changes. The agenda of our next meeting will be final approval of Policy 200-5 and discussion of the Museum Board's involvement in butterfly habitat and Pt. Pinos Lighthouse restoration. John Pearse suggested that representatives of organizations involved in butterfly habitat and Lighthouse restoration be invited to attend.

Sue Renz recommended that board members read information about the AAM's Museum Assessment Program (<http://www.aam->

us.org/museumresources/map/index.cfm).

We agreed that the following items would be on the agenda of future meetings beginning in September: accreditation, the Museum Assessment Program, and implications of including a suggested donation in Museum brochures.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Tama H. Olver
Secretary

Attachment 1

Esther Trosow Statement Regarding Revised Policy 200-5

From: Esther Trosow
Subject: new 200-5
Date: July 25, 2010 8:12:46 AM PDT
To: Tama Olver
Cc: Ken Cuneo

Hi Tama:

I've tried to come up with an approach to Council Policy 200-5 that is derived from the lease agreement between the City and the Foundation. I have been stymied throughout my attempts by my inability to formulate a meaningful policy this way.

Hence, I have no notes to contribute to the agenda packet. Rather than hold up the process any more, please proceed without my written input. I will review my fellow board members' ideas with great interest, and hope their insight will lift the fog that hampers me from the current approach.

I strongly believe that a meaningful City policy that is crafted with the needs of all parties is essential for the harmonious operations and eventual accreditation of the Museum. I believe that a policy that gives over-arching support to the still-evolving lease agreement will weaken the Museum's governance position when it is scrutinized by the AAM.

In addition to our continued effort to craft a draft policy for the Council, I also urge the Museum Board, City staff, & Foundation Board and staff enroll in a Museum Assessment Program in governance through the AAM. This can only strengthen the public-private partnership and help the Museum achieve its goals. Perhaps this can be agendaized at a future meeting.

Cheers,
Esther