



WYOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Executive Committee Meeting

November 12, 2022 – Via Zoom

Present	Name	Office	Present	Name	Office
X	Cindy Brown	President	X	Andrea Lewis	SW Rep
	Jane Gebhart	2 nd Vice Pres, AL	X	Sandra Holyoak	NE Rep
X	Cheryl O'Brien	1 st VP NW Rep	X	Jessica Flock	At Large
X	Alena Wagner	Treasurer, AL		Bud Alley	Out of State Rep
X	Heidi McCullough	Secretary, SE Rep	X	Linda Fabian	Exec. Secretary

General note: Society and Foundation are always capped. Put action items/motions in red or bold.

Others in attendance: Charlene Busk, Christian Jorgensen, Art Kidwell, Janelle Molony, Jeremy Johnston, Mike Jording, Martin Lammers, Bryce Mittelstadt, Lynn Houze, Rick Ewig,

Call to Order: Cindy Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked for those in attendance to introduce themselves.

Minutes Approval: Sandra Holyoak moved to approve the minutes of September 9, 2022, Art Kidwell seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Sandra Holyoak ~~moved~~ made a motion to move the M&O report up on the agenda, Janelle Molony seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Management and Oversight report: Mike Jording gave an overview of the Management and Oversight committee's duties and purpose and why they were tasked with review of the changes to paid positions. After the annual meeting Linda submitted a proposal that she be named Executive Director with no increase in salary, and that her travel expenses be reimbursed, and that a part-time office assistant be hired. After reviewing the proposal, the M&O Committee returned a recommendation to the Executive Committee that Linda be named Executive Director and that a part-time office assistant position be pursued for 20 hours a week at \$17-\$20 per hour. There was a review of the report the M&O committee returned on the position of Executive Director and the creation of part time office staff position. Recommendation from the committee was that Linda Fabian be allowed to take over the Executive Director position and provide for 20 hours a week at \$17-\$20 per hour for office help. Where the funds for the new salary come from would have to be determined by the Executive committee. They suggested that a review of the office space currently utilized by the Society be done to determine if it would be adequate. Also, more information is required to determine if the CD's and funds could be utilized for covering that salary. Linda spoke to the question of the current office space and any

remodeling needs, she stated that there wouldn't be any changes required. She Linda has been working with the State Workforce office and there is a program through AARP to put older people back into the workforce at \$7.25 per hour. Christian from Hilltop spoke to the CDs, the CDs are \$10,156 (matures in April) and \$50,188 (matures in July). Current rent at office is \$310 per month, including utilities. There was discussion as to whether the office position could be a remote position. Linda explained that the reason for an office assistant is to help hands-on day to day duties of running the office. Funding the position through the Foundation was discussed, due to the lack of income and the state of the market, there may not be disbursement this year. The Foundation is currently already giving 60% of the interest disbursement to the Society, the other 40% gets reinvested.

Sandra Holyoak made a motion to accept the proposal to name Linda Fabian as Executive Director, seconded by Alena Wagner, motion passed unanimously.

Alena Wagner moved to pursue funding for the addition of a part-time staff position and reimbursement of travel expenses for the Executive Director, seconded by Cheryl O'Brien. Motion was unanimously passed.

Mike Jording moved that the Executive Committee draft a letter to the Foundation requesting that the Wyoming Historical Foundation dedicate 100% of the 2022 year-end distribution toward the Executive Director travel expenses and the part time office position. Cheryl O'Brien seconded. Motion was unanimously passed.

Treasurer's Report: Alena Wagner gave the Treasurers report, one month into the new year, we are in the red for the month, but that is not indicative of the annual balance. They anticipate that turning around at the beginning of the year when some of the chapters pay annual dues. Year-end financial reports from the chapters are due November 15th. Charlene emphasized that there may not be much of anything from the endowment. Mike Jording moved to accept approve the treasurer report as submitted. Janelle Molony seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.

Christian Jorgenson from Hilltop Bank gave his report on our accounts. Many are down 15% due to the markets. Mike Jording asked about the disbursements from the investment accounts. The monies can be disbursed upon request. Christian reported that the accounts will be able to cover the budgetary obligations. Mike also requested clarification on restrictions on the Hilltop funds and what they can be used for and how much can be disbursed. Linda and Christian will collaborate to find clarification.

Wyoming Historical History Foundation: Charlene Busk gave the Foundation report. The Fall campaign has received is \$9200 so far, with \$1810 was earmarked for Wyoming History Day; \$1150 for WyoHistory.org; WyoHistory.com ; \$320 for the Homsher Grant; and \$5620 for the Foundation.

Wyoming History Day: Bryce Mittelstadt, spoke to Wyoming History Day, he is the new state coordinator. He participated as a student, judge, and teacher. They He and the American Heritage Center are looking at what changes they want to make to maintain teachers who participate and increase numbers. January and February will begin the planning for the regional and state competitions. State Competition will be May 1st this year. Cindy stated that AHC Director Paul Flesher visited with her and expressed his concerns about the sustainability of Wyoming History Day. Cindy recommended that the already established Ad Hoc Committee for History Day be reactivated to assist. Linda will work with Cindy to update that committee. is coordinating, he discussed funding with Cindy. He is concerned about the

~~future sustainability. History day ad hoc committee is coordinator, past coordinators and others. Reactivating this ad hoc committee may be timely.~~

Mike Jording moved to provide a free membership to the Wyoming History Day Coordinator. Sandy Holyoak seconded. Motion was passed unanimously.

Executive Secretary Report: Linda presented an update on the Society's name change that was voted on in September. The required paperwork has been submitted to the Secretary of State's Office and accepted, and she is working with the accountant regarding changes required by the IRS. ~~She had contacted the Secretary of State's office, and accountant for regarding the change through the IRS.~~

She has been in discussions with the Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum. They are interested in partnering with us and possibly forming a new chapter. Linda explained that the director of the JHHSM and she feel it is not the time to present their members with a \$40 increase in dues. The option would be offered to their members to "opt in" to the Wyoming Historical Society. There was previously a Teton County chapter, but they left the State Society. Their decision was based on not wanting to pay the state dues and keeping the funds in the County. There are about 16 members currently in Jackson. The Jackson Hole Historical Society and Museum is an institutional member.

A motion to accept the new logo as presented was made by Janelle Molony, seconded by Art Kidwell. The motion unanimously passed.

Linda reminded everyone that a discussion about standardizing chapter dues was agreed upon at the annual meeting. She said the idea has previously been discussed in chapter zoom meetings. ~~requested discussion on standardizing chapter dues: it was discussed in September at the annual meeting, an in zoom chapter meetings. It was suggested that we send a survey.~~ Chapter dues vary from \$0 to \$15 per chapter. Standardizing dues would make it easier for new members to join a chapter of their choice online. Discussion was held that this must be a consensus of the chapters; not the Society telling them what to do but explaining how it could help increase membership. ~~The chapters have to implement any changes.~~ It was suggested to send letters or an email to chapter presidents with suggestions for standardized dues to be discussed at chapter meetings with membership and report back to the Executive Committee. Jeremy Johnson, Mike Jording and Heidi McCullough will help Linda with this. It was suggested that an option to help cover processing fee for credit card payments be included on website.

Award report: Jane was unavailable, but Cindy Brown and Linda Fabian reported that Paul Flesher, director of the AHC, has approached them about creating an award sponsored by the AHC. Cindy and Linda asked him to consider the proposal previously presented by Mike Jording, but Paul said that wasn't something he wanted to pursue. Paul and his staff are still working on details of how they would like their award to be presented. ~~has offered to paid award annually for research up to \$300 using the American Heritage Center. Details are still being hashed out.~~

Constitution, Bylaws, & Resolutions: Sandy Holyoak reported that they will look into changes that will need to be made to the Constitution and Bylaws regarding new personnel positions.

Financial: Alena reported that they will look into budgeting for the new positions and report back.

Historic Preservation: Andrea Lewis had nothing to report.

Legislative: Robin Everett is the new member reporting on the legislature. Nothing to report at this time.

Nominating: No report

Oral History: Janelle ~~reported that working on~~ **described** a project of women interviewing women. Small snippets of the Women in Wyoming project have been released to the public and is gaining popularity. Discussions about “what to do with oral histories” and making it accessible now. Adding information to the newsletter encouraging and educating members on sharing stories and histories. Also, the possibility of applying for grants from the Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund to help make the results look more professional.

Jessica moved to grant permission to draft grant applications for Oral History projects. Sandra Holyoak seconded. Motion unanimously passed.

Projects report: Cheryl O’Brien reported on the Homsher grant process which will begin soon. Deadline, which is the end of February, will be in January newsletter.

Publications: Charlene Busk reported that the ~~annals~~ Annals are on track. Calendar season is upon us, and they are slowly moving out, 2024 calendars are now under the management of Charlene Busk and Mike Jording, they will be meeting this month to begin planning. ~~Wyoming History News~~ Wyoming History News is going well. ~~Books:~~ Anyone who makes a ~~Foundation~~ donation during the **fundraising** campaign will be put in a drawing ~~of~~ for a print. Prints are also available by request for a fee.

Website: Linda Fabian reported that upgrades are still being worked on, grant funds have to be disbursed by December.

WyoHistory.org: Linda Fabian reported that Tom Rea submitted the grant to **Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund** for \$20,000 **to assist in developing more articles for WyoHistory.org.**

Chapter Reports: Lynn House from Park County, reported that new officers have been elected and that they are implementing that each officer has to ~~present~~ **organize** a program, Jeremy Johnston thanked other officers for **stepping in** while he was unavailable. Jessica Flock from Albany County reported that they will install new officers in December, they will hopefully be sponsoring an award at Wyoming History Day with a \$250 award for projects focused on Albany County. Jessica has started an Instagram account for the Wyoming Historical Society, Wyoming History. Alena Wagner from Natrona **County** announced their Christmas Banquet will be held December 6th for a cost of \$31.50 which includes dinner. There will be a presentation by Con Trumbull about Railroads of Central Wyoming. Mike Jording from Weston County reported on their upcoming **Wyoming Day** program. Martin Lammers from Fort Bridger reported that instead of a craft fair, this year they are sponsoring a Christmas ball in the commanding officers’ quarters December 8th. Including period costumes and dances with lessons available. Charlene Busk from Campbell County reported that they are cosponsoring a program series on the holocaust presented by Kylie McCormick. Linda Fabian reported on their program featuring Evan Green and his history through a gun barrel and that they are selling calendars at a local bazaar. Heidi McCullough from Converse County reported that they are busy selling calendars at multiple craft fairs during the month of November and will not meet again until January.

Old Business: None

New Business: Linda Fabian has made arrangements with ~~Kristi Wallin~~ Christy Mullin who is willing to ~~de~~ coordinate a strategic planning session for \$500 and then will donate the fee back to the Society Foundation. It was suggested that we meet in person in January for a Strategic Planning session in Casper. Executive committee members are encouraged to attend.

Future treks: 2023 Trek Star Valley HS June 18
2023 Annual meeting park county September 8
2024? Jessica will approach Albany County about hosting 2024 Trek

Next meeting: March 18th 10:00