



**WYOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Executive Committee Meeting  
June 24, 2023 – Via Zoom

Present	Name	Office	Present	Name	Office
X	Cindy Brown	President		Andrea Lewis	SW Rep
X	Jane Gebhart	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres, AL	X	Sandra Holyoak	NE Rep
	Cheryl O’Brien	1 <sup>st</sup> 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

Others in attendance: Christian Jorgensen, Janelle Molony, Bryce Mittelstadt, Tom Rea, John Waggoner

**Call to Order:** Cindy Brown called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Minutes Approval:** Alena Wagner moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2023, Janelle Malony seconded, motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Linda Fabian detailed report on the budget. WyoHistory.org received a crossroads grant. President Brown accepted the treasurer's report as presented.

Christian Jorgensen gave an update on the economy and interest rate hikes and their effect on inflation. He gave an update on the status of the Historical Society’s portfolio; they are up 3%. Balances were submitted in the financial report.

**Wyoming Historical Foundation:** John Waggoner gave the Foundation report. The Spring Campaign was a success and they are working on the fall campaign. John and Charlene are both leaving the board at the end of their terms at the annual meeting in September. 2 spots will need to be filled. Jeremy will fill the president slot; Charlene's position is the treasurer. Nominations will be asked for at the general membership meeting.

**Executive Director’s Report:** Linda Fabian reported that day to day operations are going well, requests for research materials are always coming in and they are referred to partners like State archives and AHS. Planning is underway for the annual meeting. More articles are requested for our collaboration with the WREN magazine.

**Hiring Task Force:** Cindy Brown with the report, thirteen (13) resumes and cover letters were received. The task force met and used a matrix to identify candidates that met criteria and narrowed the field to the to five (5). The task force chose three (3) to interview. Interviews start on Monday June 26th, and will be done by Wednesday June 28th. After the interviews, the task force will meet and give

recommendations to the Executive committee. It is possible to have the new director on board by August.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Awards:** Jane Gebhart: reviews have begun on books. More books, more calendars, and more activities than in previous years. Jane's term is up in September, so someone will need to take over this position.

**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 was not something he wanted to pursue. Paul and his staff are still working on details of how they would like their award to be presented.

**Constitution, Bylaws, & Resolutions:** Linda Fabian reported that there will be a change in the verbiage in the bylaws from "Executive Secretary" to "Executive Director."

**Financial:** they are working on the budget for the annual meeting. There was discussion to address credit card fees and PayPal fees. Jessica Flock suggested giving people the option to add a donation to cover the fees of credit cards or PayPal fees. Linda Fabian also stated that we need to investigate setting up the option to take credit cards. Jessica Flock presented adding money to the budget to cover contract labor for the work on social media. She will present a report with details.

**Historic Preservation:** Linda reported that there was only one Maurine Carley nomination and one for outstanding preservation. Both were awarded and forwarded to Jane.

**Legislative:** Nothing to report at this time, it was discussed that Lane Allred from Star Valley Historical society is a legislator, and may be able to help with funding requests.

**Management and Oversight report:** This committee is helping the hiring task force. One of the additional tasks has been to clarify the position descriptions.

**Nominating:** Linda reported, Jane Gebhart's term is up, along with the At Large and Out of State. Bud Alley will run for a full term.

**Oral History:** Janelle reported on a project of women interviewing women. It was partially funded by a Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund Grant of \$3,000 (\$6,000 was requested). They are hoping to launch in March for Women's History Month. There is a YouTube Channel that has been created for the Wyoming Historical Society. The hope is to add oral histories, programs, etc. Including categories for audio only, Janelle is willing to help upload content

**Projects report:** Linda reported that the projects committee worked hard on streamlining the Homsher Grant application.

**Publications:** Linda reported that the Annals of Wyoming will combine the spring and summer editions and that will bring us up to date. It was recommended to contract with Rose Marie Arieds for \$200 per edition for proofreading. Pay would come out of the passthrough grant. Linda recommends starting as soon as possible. 2024 calendars are ready, distribution is going fast already. \$7.00 Wholesale, \$15.00 MSRP.

Motion to approve Rose Marie Arieds be the proofreader made by Heidi McCullough, Jane Gebhart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Website:** Tom Rea reported that the new websites are launched! Most of the work is done, some housekeeping of old broken links is still ongoing. Upgrade funded by Covid grant funds. Calendar work underway, looking for a way to have a secure way for others doing data entry.

**WyoHistory.org:** Tom Rea reported that Kylie McCormick wrote a \$10,000 grant request for short videos on articles and contributors. WyoHistory.org will contribute to YouTube under Historical Society.

**Wyoming History Day:** Bryce Middlestadt reported that they just returned from nationals, 150 students participated, 109 at state, 104 national. Numbers are down. State event was held at the University instead of at a hotel, it worked well. Working on teacher outreach to increase numbers. Also working on fundraising and sponsorships. Next year's theme is Turning Points.

**Chapter Reports:** Sweetwater is not interested in rejuvenating a chapter from the Sweetwater County Museum.

**Old Business:** Strategic planning session was primarily focused on hiring the executive director. The Star Valley Trek was a success, with about 80 people in attendance. Hot Springs County will host the trek in 2024.

**New Business:** Merchandising: Cheryl, Heidi, Alena, and Linda will work on it.

Motion to proceed with merchandising was made by Heidi McCullough, Alena Wagner seconded. Unanimously passed.

Involving the Wyoming Historical Society in Wyogives was discussed, in July they do a fundraising run. Linda will look into it.

Future treks & meeting

2023 Annual meeting in Cody

2024 Trek Hot Springs County

2024 annual meeting host needed.

2025 trek host needed

2025 Annual meeting host needed

Next meeting date September 8th, 2023

Adjourned 11:00am