

SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

May 23, 2013

1:00 pm

Denver Botanic Gardens

Meeting Minutes

SCFD Board members present: Chair Kathryn Spuhler, Vice Chair Kathy Kucsan, Treasurer Dan Hopkins, Secretary Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann, Joseph Arcese, Bob Grant, Rob Johnson, Elaine D. Torres, Shepard Nevel, Hal Logan and Damon O. Barry

SCFD staff present: Executive Director Peg Long, Program Manager Nancy McCamey, Program Manager Jessica Clare, Program Associate Erica Barclay, Office Systems Administrator Sheila Mieger

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Kathryn Spuhler called the meeting to order at 1:05pm followed by introductions. A quorum was present, and the agenda was approved.

John Calderhead, Chief Financial Officer, welcomed the Board to the Gardens. John encouraged everyone to tour *Catalyst*, the current exhibit featuring 12 Colorado sculptors.

2. Approval of April 11, 2013 Board Planning Session Minutes

Kathy Kucsan motioned to approve the minutes. Rob Johnson asked for his name to be included in the list of Board members present. Shepard Nevel seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

3. Approval of April 25, 2013 Board Minutes

Elaine Torres motioned to approve the minutes. Joseph Arcese seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

4. Tier I Distribution Certification

George Sparks read a statement from the Tier I CEOs.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our accomplishments so that the citizens who support SCFD continue to see the value of their dollars at work.

In 2012, citizens of the SCFD provided the Tier One organizations with the funding needed to: present unique programming, support world class facilities and collections, create and leverage a culture of collaboration, impact our economy and, most important, enrich the lives of all members of our community by providing unmatched accessibility to art, culture and scientific knowledge.

As stewards of our region's cultural and scientific heritage, we are uniquely able to share these world-class collections and resources through accessible educational programs, scholarship, scientific discoveries, and cultural experiences, adding to the quality of life and economic health of the region.

Our organizations provide an unmatched level of access and impact to the district in terms of free or reduced price admissions, school visits, programs, expanded hours and other outreach.

- In 2012 our organizations welcomed 1.21 MILLION people during SCFD Free Days and other free admission opportunities. This is an incredible level of access to scientific discoveries, experiences with plants and animals, performances and encounters with arts and artists.
- Also last year, another 1.8 MILLION people enjoyed reduced price attendance.
- This is a total of 3 MILLION people with access to our community's expansive cultural and scientific resources, thanks to citizens' continued support of the SCFD.

- We offer access to a wide range of students and schools across the district. In 2012, more than 483,000 students were served through our programs on site or in schools. Overall, more than 4,400 schools were served in 2012 alone by these five organizations.
- Each of our organizations offers expanded hours, enabling a wider range of visitors access to our collections and programs during evening and weekend hours.
- Collectively, our volunteer corps is 5,770 strong, and in the past year served our visitors with more than 433,000 hours of service.
- Together we served more than 5.5 MILLION visitors in 2012.

Access isn't just about the numbers – it's about experiences. Each of our organizations works to connect our collections and programs with people with special needs. Here is just a sample of the work we each do every day:

- At the Denver Art Museum, Access opportunities include tactile tours for the visually impaired, and a specially designed tour for patrons with dementia.
- At our Museum, we continue to offer bi-lingual, Spanish-English, travelling exhibitions, printed scripts of our audio guides for the hearing impaired, as well as rear-window open captioning for every film shown in both our IMAX Theater and Planetarium.
- Denver Zoo annually celebrates “Dream Night” in collaboration with zoos around the world to host children with special needs or serious illnesses and their families for an exciting evening where every person gets a special behind-the-scenes experience with animals and staff. “Partners Advancing With Support” (PAWS) is Denver Zoo’s successful program that incorporates special-needs teens and adults into its volunteer corps.
- DCPA offered 25 accessible performances with ASL and audio-description. Of those, 10 had open captioning. Large print, Braille and audio enhanced listening are available for all performances. Annual Access days provide enrichment with a tactile tour of a play.

With citizens’ continued support, we offer arts and science education at a time of reduced school funding. We offer experiences that show real-world career options in science and the arts. We spark imaginations and get kids excited about math, science, technology, engineering, and the arts.

Our organizations also are unique in that we are stewards of facilities and a wide range of collections from live specimens to one-of-a-kind artifacts and art works. We view these facilities and collections as community assets – assets that spark learning, scholarship and discovery.

Our organizations are unique in that many of our missions are to protect, preserve, study and share artifacts, artworks, live specimens and specimens from the past. We are responsible for these pieces of human cultural and scientific existence over millennia.

Supporting a significant portion of our operating costs, citizen-approved SCFD funds enable us to plan strategically over the long term, utilizing public and private funding sources for capital improvements as well as education and collection stewardship programs.

Our facilities cover 1.5 million square feet to protect, present and preserve these valuable assets, which include:

- More than 1.4 million artifacts and specimens
- 3,900 animals, with more than 600 species
- More than 70,000 art objects representing world cultures, from ancient pieces to contemporary masterworks
- 30 locally-produced plays and Broadway tours at the City-owned Performing Arts Complex with more than 10,000 theater seats and 11 performance spaces.
- 773 acres with more than 31,000 plant species

Each of our institutions is accredited and stands for professionalism throughout the scientific and cultural community. Our staffs consist of highly educated, experienced professionals who are leaders in education, botany, animal science, art history, conservation, sustainability and natural sciences, astronomy and more.

We achieve economic impact by providing a thriving cultural climate that attracts and retains businesses and adds to a desirable quality of life for our citizens. As a result, the reputation of our community is enhanced on a national and international level.

Further, our organizations and unique programs serve as a tourism draw that brings further dollars into the district, creating more opportunities for all SCFD organizations. Finally, we attract and employ the best staff in their field at competitive salaries, benefiting the wider economy and the experience of each and every visitor.

As most of us here know, our cultural community is extremely collaborative. The roots of this culture of collaboration can be traced directly back to SCFD – member organizations see one other as co-collaborators rather than competition.

When we connect our assets, skills and knowledge with the right partners, our accomplishments and ability to share incredible experience only increases. We are all committed to collaborating – within and beyond the SCFD family to offer our signature world-class programs and experiences.

Each of us serves actively with the SCC to maximize marketing and educational impact, as well as build capacity amongst all cultural organizations in the district.

Each of our organizations is involved in significant collaborations for programs and professional development, and we'll highlight those individually in our separate presentations.

Citizen support of science, art and culture through SCFD enables big, bold thinking and the ability to break into new territory in serving the community through expanding our collections and facilities, and developing programs that have wide impact.

- The Denver Museum of Nature & Science, Denver Zoo, and the Denver Botanic Gardens have partnered with Denver, Aurora, and Adams 14 Public School Districts making Denver one of the first urban areas beyond New York City to implement Urban Advantage. Urban Advantage provides teachers and students with resources to help students think and explore like scientists. Urban 7th grade students are encouraged to become critical thinkers by actively engaging in authentic and meaningful science investigations that develop science literacy skills.
- The Denver Art Museum early this year ended the successful, only-in-Denver Becoming Van Gogh exhibition, the region's first show of this artist's work with scholarship educating visitors about HOW the man became the artist we know today through trial and error. This exhibit brought tourists to our region – 48 percent of visitors to Van Gogh came from outside Colorado, or outside the Metro region. Created by museum staff over 10 years, this exhibition, is testimony to the value of consistent funding.
- The Denver Center for the Performing Arts continues to attract both top touring shows and top talent, raising the stature of Denver as a world-class city. Thanks in large part to citizen support, national tour launches are becoming an annual event: The Book of Mormon (2012), Peter and the Starcatcher (2013) and Pippin (2014).

In closing, we thank the citizens for their support of SCFD, as these funds are essential to our stability, enabling us to plan, design and execute programs that can be accomplished over a long

period of time. We are grateful for your volunteer leadership on the SCFD board and excellent dedication of our SCFD staff who make every dollar work hard for the citizens who support SCFD.

As we look to the coming years, we are grateful for the stabilizing support of SCFD. It, balanced with our earned income, our private giving and public investments, assure that the citizens of the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District benefit directly through a vibrant cultural and scientific community.

Following the statement each panel member gave a brief presentation on his specific organization:
The Denver Center for the Performing Arts - Randy Weeks, President and Executive Director
Denver Museum of Nature and Science - George Sparks, President and CEO
Denver Zoo - Craig Piper, President and CEO
Denver Art Museum - Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer Director
(John Calderhead, Chief Financial Officer at the Denver Botanic Gardens answered questions from the Board.
Brian Vogt, CEO presented to the SCFD Board in April.)

The Board thanked the CEOs for everything their organizations provide to the community. The Board proceeded to ask a variety of questions regarding attendance, outreach to schools, finances, collaboration with Tier II and Tier III organizations, engagement with minority populations and access.

Resolution 13-04 Pertaining to 2013 Tier I Formula and Discretionary Funds Distribution

Kathryn Spuhler read the resolution. Bob Grant motioned to approve Resolution 12-04 Pertaining to 2013 Tier I Distributions. Peggy Lehmann seconded. The motion to accept the resolution passed.

5. Resolution 13-05 Pertaining to Craig Piper

Kathryn Spuhler read the resolution. Dan Hopkins motioned to approve Resolution 13-05 Pertaining to Craig Piper. Rob Johnson seconded. The motion to accept the resolution passed. The Board thanked Craig Piper for his 16 years of service to the Denver Zoo.

6. Reports

6.1 Treasurer

Dan Hopkins reported the March 2013 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$3,802,018.71. This compares to March 2012 tax revenue of \$3,375,251.36. The variance is \$426,767.35. This is a 12.6% increase in 2013 over month-to-date (MTD) and year-to-date (YTD) 2012. The 2013 year-to-date (YTD) sales and use tax revenue is \$10,664,488.65. This compares to YTD 2012 revenue of \$10,082,223.45. The variance is \$582,265.20, a 5.78% increase in YTD 2013 over YTD 2012. Colotrust Plus rates have dropped since the end of last year. SCFD will continue to receive .8% on each dollar in our analysis interest accounts with Colorado Business Bank thru June 30, 2013. There is \$45,000 in reserves. In about 4 months there will be a need to use reserves. This will be right about the time SCFD recovers election costs from the organization's distributions.

6.2 Chairman

Kathryn Spuhler thanked the County Cultural Councils for the work they have been doing the past months interviewing grant applicant organizations. Kathryn attended the South Metro Chamber Conference.

6.3 Executive Director

Peg Long reported the following.

- Tier III grant data through May 22nd:
 - 253 final grant reports for 2011 distributions were reviewed
 - 254 grant applications were received, representing 521 combined project and General Operating Support requests, from a total of 254 unique organizations

- Staff completed 254 financial reviews and summaries for county cultural council interview sessions
 - A total of \$7,600,903.00 was requested. \$5,985,897.35 is budgeted for Tier III 2013
 - 8 grant applications were not accepted due to being late or incomplete
 - Staff has attended 27 county cultural council grant interview and regular meetings and 11 new council member orientations
 - Staff will attend 8 funding allocation meetings by end of June
- Peg, Dan and Kathryn will meet with the auditors on June 4th to review the 2012 audit prior to its formal presentation at the June board meeting
 - Banking services agreement has been drafted and sent to the bank for review by their legal counsel
 - Peg asked the Board for permission to invest in a Colorado Bank & Trust one year CD. It would have an interest rate of .40%. The investment meets all requirements for SCFD to invest. All agreed.
 - 2013 Legislative session ended May 8th; HB 13-1272, the RTD/SCFD sales tax simplification bill, has been sent to the governor for his signature

7. Public Comment

No comments were made.

8. Executive Session for the purpose of receiving legal advice pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(b), regarding statutory interpretation of the distribution of funds set forth in CRS Section 32-13-107 Kathryn Spuhler read the executive session announcement at 3:05 pm. The board moved into Executive Session. The open meeting resumed at 4:05 pm.

9. Other Matters

Kathryn Spuhler asked the Board if they would like to defer agenda item 9.1 Discussion regarding agenda for second board planning session in 2013. All agreed.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.


Secretary