

SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

July 25, 2013

1:00 pm

The Wildlife Experience

Meeting Minutes

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

SCFD Board members not present: Damon O. Barry and Treasurer Dan Hopkins

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

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

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

Kathy Daly – CFO and COO, welcomed the Board and Tier II colleagues to The Wildlife Experience. She invited everyone to enjoy the exhibits.

2. Approval of June 27, 2013 Board Minutes

Rob Johnson motioned to approve the minutes. Joseph Arcese seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

3. Presentation of Certification Report of Scientific & Cultural Collaborative (SCC)

Steve Wilson read a joint statement from the Tier IIs, followed by outlining the programming of the SCC.

I stand before you today with a dual purpose. First, as spokesman for the SCFD Tier II - who you will see represented in their diverse glory over the next two meetings. Second, as co-chair of the SCC, whose collaborative programs have already been mentioned by the Tier I and will again be showcased throughout the upcoming Tier II reports.

On behalf of both groups, I'd like to extend our deep gratitude for the extraordinary volunteer service consistently demonstrated by the SCFD Board as well as the exceptional job done by the dynamic SCFD staff - led by the stalwart wisdom of Peg Long.

The robust organizations that comprise the SCFD Tier II span the full criteria of the statute, with scientific institutions whose core missions center on entomology, ornithology, botany, geology, horticulture, natural history, aviation and space sciences; as well as arts and culture organizations whose focus highlights cultural history, visual art, film, dance, vocal music, instrumental music (from folk to classical), opera and theatre. Many of our organizations are multidisciplinary venues providing various combinations of these disciplines.

I'm here to report that the Tier II continues to thrive in this post-recession era. In 2012, the Tier II employed over 2,700 artists, performers, curators, scientists, and administrators. We maintained 182 acres of land and offered over 24,000 performances, classes or events. Together, the Tier II offered free admission to approximately 1.65 million, serving a total of 4.1 million patrons over our collective 997 years of service. And next year we grow again, as we welcome eTown back into Tier II.

In addition, we're deeply proud of our stewardship of the signature SCFD alliance that comprises the Scientific and Cultural Collaborative or SCC - a membership organization that serves all three SCFD Tiers with a variety of programs and services aimed at building

opportunities to support staff with professional training and networking; to support one another with a range of productive connections; and most importantly to support citizens with increased awareness and access to education and other programs.

The SCC engaged 17 Tier III organizations through our joint database and directory programs and forged new connections with the Tier III collaborative, CAST3. We believe the SCC is uniquely poised to promote dialogue and cohesion among all three Tiers as we move through the upcoming reauthorization process.

Last year saw our first full year of operation with participation from the entire SCFD Tier I. While we're still working to find the optimal balance for our new partners, we're delighted with the unprecedented level of communication between the Tiers. We have gained much by the capacity, wisdom and strength of the Tier I. We are clearly stronger as a united district - defining ourselves not by our respective Tiers, but as stewards of the collective gifts that only science and culture can offer our community. If we combine the staggering 5.5 million visitors served by Tier I with those from Tier II, SCC organizations were responsible for 9.6 million visits in 2012 and have a combined 1,449 years of operational service to the region. The impact on our patrons by this colossal cultural and scientific reach cannot be underestimated.

We look forward to another exciting, productive and collaborative year in service of the citizens of the seven counties of the SCFD.

The Board asked Steve if he was comfortable with the engagement of organizations. Yes, everyone is currently participating at a level that is appropriate for their programming, replied Steve. Tier IIIs can pay \$185 for a listing in the school directory and \$150-\$500 to participate in the database. The Board thanked the SCC for embracing all Tiers into the collaborative. The Board asked if they has any insights to continually work with the busy schools. Person to person connections are what makes the programs possible, word of mouth, and removing barriers is key. Making the process as simple as possible and fitting curriculum of the schools. The Board asked what their greatest challenge is. Making sure they are representing organizations well, ensuring value for Tier I and engaging Tier III. Steve stated that most organizations lose money participating in SCC. It is a labor of love.

4. Tier II Certification Reports

A representative from each organization spoke for three minutes highlighting their organization followed by five minutes of Board questions.

The Wildlife Experience - Kathy Daley, CFO and CCO
Central City Opera – Pat Pearce, General and Artistic Director
Swallow Hill - Tom Scharf, Executive Director
Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory - Tammy Vercauteren, Executive Director
Mizel Museum - Ellen Premack, Executive Director
Denver Film Society - Tom Botelho, Executive Director
Colorado Symphony Orchestra - Jerome Kern, CEO & Board Chair
Colorado Railroad Museum - Donald Tallman, Executive Director
Colorado Music Festival - Catherine Underhill, Executive Director
Colorado Mountain Club - Katie Blackett, Executive Director
Colorado Children's Chorale – Diane Newcom, Executive Director
Colorado Ballet - Marie Belew Wheatley, Executive Director
Cherry Creek Arts Festival – Terry Adams, Executive Director

Board members asked each organization questions regarding the financial health of the organization, specifically addressing any organization's reliance on one or two major funders. The Board also asked many questions related

to the management of the organizations. They also inquired as to the outreach efforts of organizations, asking that they each make a strong effort to provide programming to citizens in all counties. Each organization was asked if they would be able to report in more detail school outreach data. All organizations said it wouldn't be a problem. The Board also asked many of the organizations to share a little more about various programs and capital projects.

5. Reports

5.1 Treasurer

Kathy Kucsan reported the May 2013 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$4,046,554.12. This compares to May 2012 tax revenue of \$3,806,510.27. The variance is \$240,043.85, a 6.3% increase in 2013 over month-to-date (MTD) 2012. The 2013 year-to-date (YTD) sales and use tax revenue is \$18,370,847.03. This compares to YTD 2012 revenue of \$18,002,192.36. The variance is \$368,654.67, a 2% increase in YTD 2013 over YTD 2012.

5.2 Chairman

Kathryn Spuhler reported Inspire, Delight and Surprise are what our organizations bring to our community.

5.3 Executive Director

Peg Long reported the following.

- She is working on the 2014 budget and will share a draft with the board chair and treasurer during the month of August prior to bringing it to the board in September.
- Requests for nominations for 2013 Rex Morgan award have gone out along with a link to the nomination form. The deadline for nominations is September 6th. The event is scheduled for November 20th at the Denver Art Museum.
- She brought to the Board requests for approval of modified logos from Wings Over the Rockies and Colorado Railroad Museum. These modifications were approved in the past and have been similarly modified to comply with our new logo. Bob Grant moved to approved modified logos. Peggy Lehmann seconded. All in favor.
- County Cultural Council Delegation document has been revised and reviewed by SCFD legal counsel. Clarification as to what constituted minimal requirements and that the councils still retain total authority to accept the grant has been added. Joseph Arcese motioned to approve. Elaine D. Torres seconded. Bob Grant stated he still has concerns but understands they can't be addressed at this time.

6. Public Comment

None

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.


Secretary