

SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING  
May 28, 2020  
Zoom Virtual Meeting  
Meeting Minutes

**SCFD Board members present via phone:** Chair Jack Finlaw, Vice-Chair Councilwoman Kendra Black, Secretary Kathy Nesbitt, Treasurer Ann Speer, Suzanne Crawford, Ray Gonzales, Gino Greco, Marcela de la Mar, Carlos Martinez, Deborah Malden, and Jake Zambrano

**SCFD staff present:** Executive Director Deborah Jordy, Deputy Director Jessica Kato, Program Manager Dana Manyothane, Program Manager Heather Porter, Program Manager Kendal Zimmermann, and Office Manager Joyce Chitechi

**1. Introductions and Quorum Determination**

Chairman Jack Finlaw called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. followed by introductions. A quorum was present.

**2. Review & Approval of Agenda**

Vice-chair Councilwoman Kendra Black motioned to approve the agenda. Secretary Kathy Nesbitt seconded. Motion to accept the agenda passed.

**3. Approval of April 23, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes**

Secretary Kathy Nesbitt motioned to approve the April 23, 2020 Board meeting minutes. Treasurer Ann Speer Seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

**4. Reports**

**4.1 Treasurer**

Ann Speer reported the March 2020 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$4,437,062.41. The 2020 year-to-date (YTD) sales and use tax revenue is \$14,236,872.42 This compares to YTD 2019 sales and use tax revenue of \$14,605,956.56. The variance is (\$369,084.14), a 2.53% decrease in YTD 2020 over YTD 2019.

**4.2 Chairman**

Jack Finlaw thanked the staff for all their efforts while working remotely from home. He also thanked the staff for all the creative ways they are undertaking to support SCFD organizations.

### **4.3 Executive Director**

Deborah Jordy informed the board that the SCFD Audit is well underway and the field work is completed. The audit will be presented to the board at the next board meeting. She also announced that the SCFD staff is analyzing the results of the COVID-19 survey data collected from SCFD funded organizations. Deborah thanked the SCFD organizations for their innovative work as well as their optimism. Lastly, she informed the board that Colorado Creative Industries, Colorado Office of Film, Television & Media, and The Collaborative of the SCFD have partnered to create webinars regarding COVID-19. These webinars have provided resources to connect SCFD organizations, the state, and the public.

#### **4.3.1 Resolution 20-06: Pertaining to the Fiscal Year 2020 Amended SCFD Budget**

Chairman Jack Finlaw informed the board that the amended budget reflects a 30% reduction in the budget considering the economic downturn. The amended budget may be changed in the future depending on economic trends. Executive Director Deborah Jordy fielded questions regarding the timing of the amended budget. Ray Gonzales motioned to approve Resolution 20-06: Pertaining to the Fiscal Year 2020 Amended SCFD Budget. Carlos Martinez seconded. Motion to approve the resolution passed.

### **5. Tier I 2020 Distribution Certification**

Brian Vogt, CEO of Denver Botanic Gardens read the annual joint statement from the Tier I CEO's:

Looking back at 2019, it's safe to say that 2020 bears little if any resemblance to a year that saw expansion in every category for the SCFD Tier 1 institutions – visitation, access, engagement, and facilities. The “19” that tags along as the qualifier for the virus that has made an indelible mark on 2020 is a memento nobody wanted to bring into the new year.

But there are other, more enduring and defining elements of 2019 to celebrate and remember during these difficult times, as they speak more to our future than to this challenging moment.

Expanding access to arts, culture, and science remains the unifying mission of the Denver Art Museum, Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Denver Zoo, Denver Museum of Nature & Science, and Denver Botanic Gardens.

Collectively, we welcomed more than 7.3 million people onsite in 2019 – more than 3 million of these admissions either free or at a reduced rate. Beyond our walls, we engaged with audiences in all seven counties of the SCFD.

Education was a driver for much of this engagement. A testament to this was scholarship programs – each in excess of \$250,000 – offered by both Denver Zoo and Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Combined, our five institutions offered programming for a half-million K-12 students.

Inclusivity and diversity continued to spur innovation and growth. At DCPA, the new Theatre Company artistic director paid homage to all-black settlements in the Oklahoma Territory with an all-African American production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Oklahoma! IDEA (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility) initiatives grown at our institutions were replicated nationally – the American Public Gardens Association, for example, has embraced many of the approaches Denver Botanic Gardens had developed to establish best practices for gardens across the country in removing barriers to engagement.

Denver Art Museum pulled a rabbit out of a hat – again! – with their blockbuster Monet exhibit, curating the most comprehensive U.S. exhibit of Claude Monet's work in more than two decades. DAM and the Gardens both look forward to the day when our expanded exhibit spaces – the Freyer – Newman Center at the Gardens and the DAM's Martin Building renovation – fulfill their goal of engaging new audiences through both art and science.

As we start to re-open to the public, we have the opportunity to reimagine how people can best interact with us. It may be a while before we welcome visitors back in the multiples of millions. But in the meantime, we will work together to create a path forward – to both onsite visitations as well as offsite and online engagement.

### **5.1 Panel presentation by Tier I CEOs (6 min. per organization)**

Following the joint statement, each panel member gave a six-minute presentation on their specific organization:

Denver Botanic Gardens: Brian Vogt, CEO

Denver Art Museum: Christoph Heinrich, Frederick and Jan Mayer Director

Denver Zoo: Bert Vescolani, President and CEO

Denver Center for Performing Arts: Janice Sinden, CEO

Denver Museum of Nature & Science: George Sparks, President and CEO

The Board thanked the presenters and the organizations for providing extraordinary leadership through this challenging time. The Board proceeded to ask a variety of questions regarding the progression of construction projects, strategies to engage stakeholder groups, PPP loans, and guidance for opening procedures.

**5.2 Resolution 20-07: Pertaining to 2020 Tier I Budgeted Funds Distribution**

Carlos Martinez motioned to approve Resolution 20-07: Pertaining to 2020 Tier I Budgeted Funds Distribution. Secretary Kathy Nesbitt seconded. Motion to approve the resolution passed.

**6. Resolution 20-08: Pertaining to the Extension of Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency**

Secretary Kathy Nesbitt motioned to approve Resolution 20-08: Pertaining to the Extension of Declaration of Local Disaster Emergency. Carlos Martinez seconded. Motion to approve the resolution passed.

**7. Other Matters (new/old business)**

None.

**8. Public comment**

None.

**9. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

  
Secretary