

New Mexico Foundation for Open Government (NMFOG)
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 12, 2019
12 p.m.
Albuquerque, NM

A regular meeting of the board of the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government was held at the offices of the Foundation, notice having been given.

Members Present:

Karen Moses, President; Susan Boe, Vice President; Carl Baldwin, Treasurer; Mike Melody, Secretary; Members: Dede Feldman, Tom Johnson, Sammy Lopez (elected at meeting), Paula Maes, Steve McKee, Chuck Peifer, Mary Lou Roper,

Members Attending via Telephone: Kathy Bearden, Fred Nathan, Lucas Peerman, Kip Purcell, Dan Yohalem

Members Not Present:

Mary Ann Armijo, Jeri Clausing, Viki Harrison, Henry Lopez, Tim Maestas, Bob Trapp, Greg Williams, Joe Zebas

Staff:

Melanie Majors, Executive Director; Diane Lopez, Marketing and Membership Director

Guests:

Penny Baldwin, Miriam Diener, Ethan Watson

Call to Order:

A quorum being present, Ms. Moses called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Ms. Moses called for a motion to approve the agenda, and to move Mr. Watson's and Ms. Diener's presentation to follow approval of the agenda. Mr. Peifer moved; Mr. Johnson seconded. Motion carried.

Guest Presentation:

Mr. Watson and Ms. Diener, of the City of Albuquerque, gave the board a highly detailed review of the efforts the city has made to improve compliance with IPRA. Among the challenges the city has been facing are: a) the amount of time spent fulfilling requests which are never collected, and b) increasingly broad requests for video files, all of which must be reviewed for

legally required redaction. Ms. Moses and the board expressed appreciation for the progress the city has made in its compliance activity.

Approval of Minutes:

Ms. Moses called for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2019. Ms. Maestas moved; Mr. Melody seconded. Motion carried.

Election of New Board Member:

Ms. Roper moved, Fred Nathan seconded, the election of Mr. Sammy Lopez to the board. Motion carried.

President's Report:

Ms. Moses updated the board on aspects of the upcoming Dixon Awards Lunch, including progress on luncheon sponsors. She also reported that the Executive Committee had favorably evaluated Ms. Majors' work since becoming Executive Director, and that Ms. Moses and Ms. Boe had discussed the evaluation with Ms. Majors.

Among other items, Ms. Moses further reported that the New Mexico Press Association had agreed to store the Foundation's archival materials, which had been held at the Chamber of Commerce, until such time as the Foundation was able to review them.

Finance Committee Report:

Mr. Baldwin, Chair, presented the Financial Report, comparing August YTD results to budget and to prior year. Both comparisons appear favorable, although Mr. Baldwin reminded the board that categorization of revenue in the prior year may not have conformed to the procedures currently in place by the Finance Committee.

Executive Director's Report:

Ms. Majors spoke to her written Executive Director's report, attached, and incorporated by reference. She thanked Ms. Boe for her successful efforts with the Walbridge Foundation, and reiterated that this year's Thornburg grant was unrestricted.

As at the April board meeting, Ms. Majors commented on the increase in requests for IPRA assistance, and on the increased complexity of requests.

Committee Reports:**Legal Affairs**

In the absence of Mr. Williams, chair, at Ms. Moses request, Mr. Yohalem reported on the status of various cases being followed by NMFOG.

Dixon Award

Ms. Bearden, chair, reported on the nominees for the Dixon Awards, as approved by the nominating committee and the Executive Committee, and thanked members of the committees.

Dixon Lunch

Ms. Maes, Chair, deferred to Ms. Majors on the selection of the speaker for the event. Mr. David Cuillier, president of the National Freedom of Information Coalition, will be the keynote speaker. Additionally, he is a member of the First Amendment Coalition of Arizona board, and a professor at the University of Arizona.

Ms. Lopez reported on the silent auction items to be available at the lunch, now to be held at the Marriott on Louisiana Boulevard.

Marketing and Membership Director's Report

Ms. Lopez reported on the number of memberships received to date, numbering 107, with \$4,200 in dues received.

Marketing Committee

Mr. McKee, Chair, reported. The principal activity over the course of the past few months was the generation of a new visual image for the Foundation, which will be employed in several new messages to be produced. He presented the new materials to the board, which were well received.

Legislative Committee

Mr. Nathan, Chair, reported on the legislative committee's view of likely topics to be taken up in the semi-annual "short" legislative session, in which the principal topic will be the state budget.

New Business:

Ms. Moses announced the appointment of a nominating committee, to select candidates for officers' positions for the coming year. Members include Mr. Baldwin, Ms. Boe, Ms. Feldman, Mr. Lopez, and Martin Salazar.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, on motion by Ms. Moses and seconded by Mr. Melody, the meeting was adjourned at 1:35pm.

Respectfully,

Michael Melody
Secretary