

Minutes

Joint RCC and YCHS Annual Meeting

May 18, 2022

Present: Bruce Gwynn, Betsy Gottsponer, Tom Rushin, Lenore Stuart, Emilia Cortez, Dr. Linda Elliott-Nelson

Absent: Pete Thompson, Thelma Lundy, Faron Owl, Sue Ann Willen

1. Call to Order: 6:51 p.m.
2. Approval of May 21, 2021 minutes from the Joint RCC and YCHS Annual Meeting.
Rachel Stallworth moved to approve, seconded by Linda Elliott-Nelson. Approved unanimously.
3. Call to the Public: None
4. RCC President's Remarks: Bruce Gwynn explained the unique role of the RCC Chapter, stating that AHS Chapters are no longer responsible for fundraising. Instead, Chapters are responsible for advising and advocating for the Historical Society within surrounding communities. President Gwynn went on to explain that the Yuma County Historical Society is a 501c3 non-profit organization tasked with raising funds to support the Sanguinetti House Museum and Molina Block.
5. Yuma County Historical Society Board Comments: President, Tiffany Ott, shared that funds raised during recent Redondo Dinner and Auction events are being invested in special projects, like construction of a restroom at the Molina Block. President Off stated her appreciation to Dr. David Breeckner for his support of Fresh Air Yuma Agriculture History Museum at the Molina Block. President Ott announced a new partnership with the City of Yuma to host an old-school Christmas event at the Molina Block on the first Friday in December of 2022. Santa will be on-site!
6. Rio Colorado Chapter Update: Yanna Kruse emphasized staff commitment to create memory-making experiences for visitors. Kruse described "A Perfect Day" at the Sanguinetti House Museum.
7. Financial Report: YCHS Secretary, Kathi Marcus, provided a financial update for the Yuma County Historical Society and stated news of the Sanguinetti Gift Shop's rebranding to align with the Sanguinetti House Museum.
8. Special Presentation by Dr. David Breeckner, Executive Director of the Arizona Historical Society. Dr. Breeckner communicated his enthusiasm for the Fresh Air Yuma Agriculture History Museum at the Molina Block, explaining opportunities associated with pursuing proposals for the project from exhibition design/build firms. Dr. Breeckner announced that meetings are happening with AHS staff. Ideas compiled will be presented to RCC / YCHS local boards for discussion to ensure a united vision and an agreed upon approach forward. Dr. Breeckner also mentioned the recent S.W.O.T. analysis, thanking Board members for their contributions.

9. Yuma County Historical Society Foundation: Bruce Gwynn paralleled the structure of the YCHS Foundation to that of the Yuma County Fair Board. A Foundation will be formed of local individuals interested in Yuma County history and willing to assist with YCHS projects.
10. President Bruce Gwynn presented the slate of candidates to serve on the RCC Board of Directors: Tom Rushin, Pete Thompson, Betsy Gottsponer, Tom Rush, Monica Ketchum-Cardenas. A motion to approve was made by Linda Elliott-Nelson, seconded by Lenore Stuart. Unanimously approved.
11. President Tiffany Ott presented the slate of candidates for the Yuma County Historical Society Board of Directors: Bruce Gwynn, Tiffany Ott, Dr. Gowan Deckey, Lenore Stuart. A motion to approve was made by Kathi Markus, seconded by Mary Campbell. Unanimously approved.
12. Adjournment: 7:53 p.m.