

Rio Colorado Chapter Meeting Minutes

October 20, 2021

Present: Pete Thompson, Bruce Gwynn, Betsy Gottsponer, Tom Rushin, Cecilia Young, Lenore Stuart, Thelma Lundy, Faron Owl, Sue Ann Willen, Emilia Cortez

Absent: Linda Morgan, Linda Elliott-Nelson

1. Call to Order at 6:20pm – Bruce Gwynn
2. Call to the Public – None
3. Approval of minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting of the RCC Board of Directors.
A motion was made by Lenore Stuart to approve minutes as presented. Emilia Cortez seconded the motion. All approved. Passed.
4. President's Report – Bruce Gwynn announced the appointment of Dr. David Breeckner to the position of Executive Director for the Arizona Historical Society. Bruce explained the hiring process and shared that Dr. Breeckner comes highly qualified for the position.
5. The annual Christmas at the Sanguinetti House Museum event was described by Bruce Gwynn. The date of December 1, 2021 was set for the event.
6. Bruce Gwynn shared his idea for a Christmas on Madison Avenue event in 2022.
7. A "Thirsty Thursday" event was also described by Bruce Gwynn and suggested this concept for consideration at the Sanguinetti House Museum. Bruce attended this event hosted by a museum in Northern Arizona and felt it may attract interest and excitement at the Sanguinetti House. Thirsty Thursday is a weekly evening activity blending music, food/drink, entertainment, and local history.
8. Director's Remarks: Yanna Kruse presented a tentative timeline for reopening of the Sanguinetti House Museum and Gardens, with a soft reopening in November and grand reopening early in December. The idea of elevating the December 1st Christmas at the Sanguinetti House event to serve as both an exhibit opening and a show of appreciation for AHS members was discussed and received favorable response. Donna Johnson, Vice President of YCHS, offered to take lead on the project with assistance from museum staff. Yanna Kruse also discussed the draft reopening business plan for the Sanguinetti House Museum and offered to share the document with RCC and YCHS Board members.
9. Yuma County National Heritage Area Update: Emilia Cortez announced that State Parks Passes went on sale the previous week. She also reported that government funding of the two parks in Yuma has been secured for the next 15-years due their positive performance.
10. Announcements and matters for consideration at future board meetings: Betsy Gottsponer stated that she is assisting with an Eagle Scout project that involves collecting information about people buried at the Pioneer Cemetery. Betsy requested that Board members contact her with any information regarding individuals buried in this cemetery. Bruce Gwynn announced the next RCC meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 17th.
11. Adjournment: 6:44pm