

MINUTES OF THE JULY 6, 2021, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) conducted a videoconference meeting on July 6, 2021. Participating were Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case, Vice Chair Dr. Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, and Committee member John Fahey.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Lonnie Bunch, Counselor to the Chief Justice Jeffrey P. Minear, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester, Special Assistant to the Regents Mallory Gianola (recorder), General Counsel Judith Leonard, Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer Meroë Park, Assistant Secretary for Advancement Rob Spiller, and Under Secretary for Science and Research Ellen Stofan.

CALL TO ORDER

Board and Executive Committee Chair Steve Case called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda.

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the draft minutes of the June 2, 2021, Committee meeting were approved without modification.

APPROVAL OF GIFT TO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

The Committee reviewed one gift to the National Museum of American History (“NMAH”) requiring approval by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board of Regents. The Committee was asked to consider the gift to accommodate the timing of the public announcement, scheduled to occur before the next meeting of the Board of Regents, and ensure the sponsorship is included in the publicity and promotion of the exhibition. The gift adheres to applicable Smithsonian directives and the Institution’s guiding principles, policies, and procedures, as set forth by the Board of Regents.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the following motion was approved:

VOTED that the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01, recognizes the generosity of American Cruise Lines, Inc. and accepts the terms of the sponsorship agreement.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary updated the Committee on the state of the Smithsonian, specifically the Institution’s ongoing response to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic and reopening status.

On May 26, the Smithsonian announced that 10 museums would reopen on a staggered schedule from June through August, marking a full reopening since closing to the public in March 2020. The National Museum of African Art and the National Museum of Asian Art Freer Gallery will reopen to the public on July 16. The National Air and Space Museum and the Smithsonian Institution Building (“Castle”) will open on July 30. The Secretary informed the Committee that beginning Tuesday, July 20, the Smithsonian will return to pre-COVID-19 capacity numbers at the museums and the Zoo, and timed-entry passes will no longer be required. The Secretary noted three exceptions to phasing out the timed-entry passes. The National Museum of African American History and Culture, which has required free timed-entry passes since it opened in 2016, will continue to require passes. The National Zoo will continue to use free passes to manage its normal capacity limits. The Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum in New York City, which typically charges for entry, will continue to require tickets but will offer free tickets through October 31. The Smithsonian will continue to implement safety measures based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and assess the Institution’s policies and procedures as the pandemic and the public health response evolve.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee entered into an executive session at approximately 12:05 p.m. to discuss a potential major gift to the Smithsonian.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

EMAIL BALLOT

The Executive Committee voted to approve the following motion on behalf of the Board of Regents, according to Board Bylaw 3.01, because the Board was not in session. The appointment required approval by the Executive Committee, prior to the Board meeting in October, to accommodate the appointment term. The motion was approved via email ballot completed on June 23, 2021.

VOTED that the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01, appoints Raul A. Anaya to the Board of Trustees of the National Museum of the American Latino for a two-year term, effective immediately.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Case, Chair