

CLARK PLANETARIUM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Location: Virtual and In-Person Meeting

Thursday, May 21, 2026

Board attendance:

Rod Parker, Chair
Mike Maxwell, Vice Chair
Madelaine Miller Anderson
Joe Bauman
Andrea Garavito-Martinez
Ken Gritton
Emily Lehnardt
Gina McBride
Daniel Mendoza
Bob Moore
Priscilla Hansen Neve
Shawn O’Kane
Tanasia Valdez

Rob Gonzalez
Patrick Neville
Natalie Pinkney, Council member
Michelle Schmitt

Others Present:

Kunbi Adekunle
Justin Anderson
Maureen Ford
Duke Johnson
Scott Sherrick
Anna Swenson
Anna Marie Tueller
Tera Nicolo-Smith
Jason Trump
Jayceen Craven Walker

Board, absent:

I. **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME** at 12:34 p.m. by Rod Parker.

- a. Rod Parker asked the Board members if any of them had received public written or verbal comments to be presented to the Board. None had comments.

II. **REVIEW OF MINUTES & CURRENT BUSINESS**

- a. Rod asked if there were any questions or comments about the April 2026 minutes.
 - i. Rod asked for a vote to approve the January 2026 minutes. Gina McBride motioned for approval and Bob Moore seconded. The April minutes were approved.



- b. Rod initiated a conversation around the recent meeting with County leadership, the consultant group, and Clark Planetarium leadership. Duke Johnson continued the discussion by sharing a selection of slides from that meeting. The consensus from those who attended was that the County was positive and showed support for future growth of Clark Planetarium. Various points of the presentation were discussed by the Board and how they could be utilized in planning for the future.
- i. A small group of Clark Planetarium and Salt Lake County leaders will visit two institutions similar to Clark Planetarium to gain insight into potential paths forward and help guide future planning for the Planetarium.

III. PLANETARIUM BUSINESS & DISCUSSION

- a. Kunbi Adekunle shared the April financials. Overall, numbers continue to struggle in numerous areas, while there have been some positive upward trends in others. Some of this is being attributed to trying out new content at the Planetarium.
- i. Justin Anderson explained that the numbers seem to show a positive benefit from the recent SciFi Fest, which will now be a monthly event. There is work towards more marketing aimed at the Dome Theatre to help promote the new upcoming content.
- b. Scott Sherrick talked to the Board about theatre attendance and ticket trends. February saw another boost in the number of guests; guests were up by 22% while ticket sales were down by 2%.

- c. Justin shared the new and upcoming shows in both theatres. The Northrop Grumman IMAX® Theatre will start the summer off with an informal celebration of the 250th anniversary of the country with *Apollo 11*, *National Parks Adventure*, and *Into America's Wild*. The Hansen Dome Theatre will have three new laser shows (*Laser Maestro presents Decades*, *Laser Maestro presents Metal Mayhem*, and *K-Pop Demon Hunters*) and one science show (*Encounters in the Milky Way*).

IV. **SUMMER CAMPS UPDATE**

- a. Jason Trump informed the Board on the progress of the second year of independent Clark Planetarium summer camps. As of May 21, the classes are 70% full, which is a notable increase in the number of attendees due to the significantly higher number of camps when compared to last year. He also discussed the planning and direction of the camp programming, including intentional efforts to keep the camps accessible to as many families as possible.

V. **COMMUNITY PROGRAMS UPDATE**

- a. Anna Swenson gave the Community Programs update for April. There were 45 programs with 4,126 attendees. This is an increase from the last number of months. She indicated the higher numbers could be attributed to recent popular events, including SciFi Fest and May the Fourth, as well as new partnership opportunities that allowed Community Programs to expand offerings without overextending staff.

VI. CLOSING REMARKS

- a. Duke shared information about the new Boeing sponsorship in the Hansen Dome Theatre. He thanked Shawn O’Kane for his work in securing the partnership with Boeing.
- b. Rod adjourned the meeting at 1:49 p.m.

FINAL