

**CLARK PLANETARIUM ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Location: Virtual and In-Person Meeting**

**Thursday, June 16, 2022**

**Board attendance:**

Jordan Hansen, Chair  
Bianca Lyon, Vice-Chair  
Mike Hanson  
Michelle Love-Day  
Julia Kamenetzky  
Lauren Littlefield  
Andrea Garavito-Martinez  
Olga Siggins  
Tanasia Valdez  
Kim Wilson  
Jim Brass

**Board absent:**

Ahsan Iqbal  
Jim Karner  
Laurie Stringham  
Ulrich Rassner

**Others Present:**

Richard Cox  
Robin Chalhoub  
Jayceen Craven Walker  
Grace Hanley  
Duke Johnson  
Mike Sheehan  
Joe Stohel  
Anna Marie Tueller

- I. **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME** at 12:35 p.m. by Jordan Hansen. He noted that a quorum was in attendance.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** were requested by Jordan Hansen. None were brought to the attention of the Board.
- III. **REVIEW OF MINUTES**
- IV. Jordan Hansen asked if there were any additions or corrections that need to be made to the May 2022 minutes. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to approve them. Kim Wilson made a





motion to approve the minutes, and Michelle Love-Day seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved by the Board.

## V. CURRENT BUSINESS

- a. Jordan Hansen mentioned the wonderful demonstration of the new open captioning system presented to the Board in the Dome Theatre before the meeting. This new system will increase accessibility for certain members of our community, he said. The board applauds the Planetarium for moving forward on this.
- b. Jordan Hansen brought up board membership. He opened the meeting to nominations for Board Chair and Board Vice-Chair, then nominated Bianca Lyon as Board Chair. No other nominations were put forth.
- c. Bianca Lyon nominated Ahsan Iqbal for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were put forth.
- d. The vote for Bianca Lyon for Board Chair was unanimous. The vote for Ahsan Iqbal for Vice-Chair was also unanimous.
- e. Jordan Hansen mentioned that, as the representative for the Hansen family, he would remain on the board.
- f. Jordan Hansen asked for a motion to cancel the July 2022 Board meeting. Bianca Lyon made a motion to cancel the July 2022 Board meeting. Michelle Love-Day seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- g. Jordan Hansen mentioned that two members were dropping from the Board as their terms will expire before the next meeting: Kim Wilson and Mike Hanson.  
  
The Board thanked them for their service.
- h. The last order of business concerned the one-year extension of the naming contract for Northrop Grumman for the IMAX Theatre. He said the Board recommends extending it. Northrop Grumman has been a great partner with the Planetarium, and that partnership has helped keep the exhibits fresh. Northrop Grumman has decided to extend their naming rights for the IMAX Theatre, for one year and they want to open it up to comments from the Board or the public. Duke Johnson mentioned that without their support, the Planetarium wouldn't have been able to put in the new exhibits it has over the last few years. Jordan Hansen said the Board will send them a letter endorsing the partnership.

## VI. PLANETARIUM REPORT

- a. Anna Marie Tueller discussed the Planetarium's financials.
- b. The Planetarium had a very successful May. Dome attendance came close to a record high. Memberships tallied in at the same amount as last year but is expected to go up with the new Development Coordinator position filled. IMAX had the highest May revenue over the last five years. The store has exhibited a record high for the month of May over the last five years. Concessions was higher than pre-COVID numbers. Prices there were raised on May 16<sup>th</sup>, so the



Planetarium is starting to see some increased revenue as a result. Building rentals were low since the classroom was the only space being rented out.

However, with the hiring of a new Events Coordinator, the Planetarium should start seeing more full building rentals coming through between June and the end of the year. Show distribution was zero, but there is a sale coming in through Evans & Sutherland in June for \$5,600. Also in June, exhibits has \$9,000 coming in for two sales. There was \$700 in donations.

- c. Duke Johnson mentioned that current vacant positions are being filled. A Community Programs Assistant and two GET Team Assistant Supervisors have been hired. The full-time GET Supervisor position is pending reclassification. One of the two Associate Director positions has been posted, and a Marketing & Communications position is now vacant.
- d. Mike Sheehan, Store Manager, gave a presentation. He said that store inventory has gone up 50 percent. In the first part of the year, the Planetarium was lucky to receive a third of its placed orders. Then, in April, \$92,000 worth of merchandise came in. So, the store now has inventory to sell. The first four months of the year were gangbusters, but there's now a cooling trend with inflation going up and gasoline at \$5.00 a gallon. He then presented the bestselling items in the last six months. Bags of rocks are a great seller. He then showed a couple of the store's telescopes, noting that the Planetarium is the only place in the surrounding area

to get high-quality telescopes. Prices have gone up considerably due to increased shipping charges.

- e. Duke Johnson presented two slides highlighting Community Programs, and how popular their programs are becoming with patrons. He also mentioned that the Planetarium was getting a full-scale Perseverance Mars rover to exhibit on July 7th. There will be NASA engineers giving presentations in tandem during the opening weekend.
- f. Jayceen Craven Walker presented a letter she received from a patron on how the Planetarium had influenced his life, and his decision to become an electrical engineer.

**VII. CLOSING REMARKS**

- a. Jordan Hansen adjourned the meeting. The next Board meeting is set for Thursday, August 18, 2022.