

FRIENDS OF ARIZONA ARCHIVES
Board of Directors Meeting
Sanguinetti House Museum of the Arizona Historical Society
Yuma, Arizona March 17, 2006

Call to order: Vincent Murray, FAZA president, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Present: John Akers, vice-president; Scott Solliday, treasurer and membership chair; Margaret T. Baker, director-at-large. Bill Sheldon, director-at-large, participated in the meeting through conference call. Absent: Anna Uremovich, secretary; and Catherine May, director-at-large.

Secretary's report: Minutes of board meeting of 12/2/05 were approved as written. (Akers/Solliday) Margaret agreed to take the minutes of this meeting.

Treasurer's report: Copies of the quarterly treasurer's report were reviewed, and accepted by the board. Scott will make arrangements to have FAZA funds for 2004-2005 audited before the annual meeting in June. The audit for the 2005-2006 fiscal year will be done in July.

Membership report: Many members seem to think the dues year for FAZA begins in January, rather than in July. More dues have been received, and membership is now standing at just over 100. The dues notice will be included in the next newsletter.

Old Business:

Website: There was no response to the RFP for a Webmaster. Bill Sheldon will pursue the possibility of someone he knows being interested. The website is up to date, and a memorial donation opportunity for the state archives building will be added soon.

Status of the state archive building: Vince reported that by mid-April the plans should be complete enough for the accompanying cost estimate to be presented by the end of April.

National History Day Grant: The two schools selected to receive the FAZA \$250 awards are Morenci Junior/Senior High School, and Buena High School in Sierra Vista. The Morenci expenses were \$150 more this year, due to more students participating, and the school representative wondered if FAZA would cover the additional costs. After discussion, the board consensus was to continue to limit the award to \$250 per school. Taxpayers can designate their schools tax credit for the National History Day program at their chosen school. FAZA members have done this in the past and will be encouraged to do so in the future.

Law Collection Project Update: Bill reported on the progress to date. All the identified 19th century Arizona law books have been either rebound or repaired. Phase III is underway, which involves Arizona Attorney General Opinions. FAZA funds will be used

to pay for the digitization of older Opinions that are currently in the History and Archives division of ASLAPR (1892 through 1936).

New Business:

Tree of Life: A “Tree of Life” wall sculpture has been donated for the state archives building. GladysAnn Wells proposed that Friends of Arizona Archives be inscribed on one of the boulders at the base of the tree, symbolic of FAZA’s role in the development of the state archives building. The cost is \$500. Motion passed to proceed; Sheldon/Baker.

FAZA Advocacy Efforts/Mesa: The board discussed at length what FAZA might do in carrying out its mission of advocacy for Arizona archives in a situation such as the threat that currently exists in Mesa. Motion was passed for John to draft a broad advocacy letter for FAZA to use in this type of situation, stressing the value of public access to these archival treasures. The letter would include the opportunity for appropriate wording to be inserted that is unique to each situation. The draft is to be available by April 1, and will be circulated among board members for input before finalization. The letter would be appropriate to send to newspapers, public policymakers, and other organizations that advocate for historical archives and repositories. (Murray/Solliday)

FAZA Scholarship: Bill reported that he does not have a recommendation to present yet.

Groundbreaking Committee: The board discussed the importance of FAZA providing the leadership in development of the groundbreaking ceremony for the new archives building. We need to involve stakeholder representatives in the ceremony. Vince will be working directly with Mike Braun of Legislative Council on this, and help from all of us will be needed.

AHC/FAZA Involvement: FAZA will be sponsoring a pre-conference workshop, and a session on Friday afternoon at the Arizona History Convention in Tucson 4/27-30. FAZA volunteers are needed, and Margaret will be telephoning volunteers for this, and the state archives groundbreaking ceremony.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Carol Brooks, Curator at the museum, provided an overview of the archives and information on their very successful programs.

Recorded by:

Margaret T. Baker
Director At Large