**GOVERNING BOARD OF THE HARWOOD FOUNDATION
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO**

Meeting Minutes, Friday, December 20, 2024
Arthur Bell Auditorium/Hybrid Meeting 3PM-Recorded

**Governing Board Members Present**: Lucile Grieder, Scott McAdams\*, Dora Dillistone, Romy Colonius, Santiago Vaca\*, Janet Mockovciak\*, Harris Smith\*, Tim Castillo\*, Sherry Livney, Shawn Berman\*, Laurie Medley\*, Liz Neely\*

**Staff Members Present**: Sonya Davis, Valerie Overlan, Juniper Leherissey

**Others Present**: Gus Foster, Alexandra Benjamin

\* Attended via Zoom

**Absent**: Vernon Lujan, Mary Guiterrez, Teresa Costantinidis

**Handouts**: Agenda, 10/18/2024 Minutes; Board Nominations List, Strategic Plan Action Plan

**Call to Order/Confirmation of Quorum**: Scott McAdams confirmed the quorum and called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.

1. **Approval of the 8/16/2024 Minutes**: Shawn Berman made a motion, Lucile Grieder seconded; all in favor
2. **Approval of Consent Agenda**: Lucile made a motion; Dora seconded; all in favor
3. **Board Chair Updates**: Great accomplishments this year, including the Hurtado and Herrera exhibitions; re-opening of the store; recovery of the stolen art; major gifts this year with Harwood expansion, and revision of Bylaws. Staff is excellent and sorry to see some Board members rolling off. Farewell to some Harwood staff.
4. **Director’s Report**: Last quarter has been a whirlwind with Bylaws and Resolutions revisions. See Director’s Report for more details. Stephanie Bennett Smith’s property next door to Harwood was successfully gifted and documents closed. Harwood/UNM now fully owns the property. This will help Education Programs expand. A dedication and open house are planned for June, although we will host artists in residence immediately. Gus asked if the building came with any funds, but Juniper said it did not. Lucile asked if there were any furnishings and Juniper shared that some rooms have furnishings. The two-bedroom studio is furnished. Juniper thanked both Lucile and Sonya for their work on securing the property. Janet asked why Stephanie’s name is different throughout documents- Juniper shared that Stephanie prefers to use Mitchell (maiden name and honoring her grandmother) and dropping Bennett for naming.

Lighting Ledoux was a huge success with over 1,000 in the museum and over 300 in Education. All businesses on the street participated. If you still need to do some holiday shopping, there are double discounts this weekend in the Museum Store. Collections has engaged a contract policy expert. Taos Municipal Schools review and vote has been delayed to January/February. Fifty works identified that will be returned to TMS.SITE Santa Fe requested some artwork for their exhibition next year, but Collections Committee declined loaning the pieces. Dora and Gus commented on the Collections Committee decision. Liz asked if the Rebecca James art would be repaired. Esteban Cabeza de Baca exhibition has been rescheduled. He is going to be on exhibit at The Hammer and considered for the next Whitney Biennale. Staffing update: Sylvia is on-call currently; Sonya’s last day is next week, 12/31. Three positions open: 1) UNM Foundation Director of Development position; 2) Collections Associate and 3) Marketing- Harwood has retained Esparza Marketing Team to cover Marketing and hoping to hire a Marketing Coordinator. Board members have provided over $75,000. Campaign progress seem to have been affected by elections… behind on Thrive and Year End Appeal campaigns. Fundraising has been challenging.

Please note Governing Board meeting dates shifted for 2025. Next meeting is Jan 24, 2025.

1. **Governance Committee**: Shawn Berman

Reiterate that Bylaws & Resolution revisions completed and signed by UNM Board of Regents. The Governance Committee would like feedback on the nominees put forth. There are three board openings, including Janet M, Dora D and Mary G leaving. Next year, Lucile G and Shawn B will roll off. The list of nominees was reviewed to provide feedback for the Governance Committee.

Other nominees are from UNM Taos and Shawn will chat with Mary Gutierrez for feedback.

1. **Fundraising/Endowment Report**: Shawn shared how well fundraising has gone this year; the Board toasted Sonya Davis.
2. **Accomplishments** conversation on Harwood highlights this year. Some comments: Strategic Plan details; DEAI work; Bi-lingual signs in the galleries; Bylaw revisions; property expansion gift is huge; Endowment campaign; board member diversity is impressive**;** openings broadening to very diverse audiences; exhibitions have been remarkable this year; great new board members; Santiago thanked the group for inviting him to serve; wonderful job Juniper has done to hire a great team; cross-departmental, long-range planning for exhibitions; store adding merchandise that supports local artists and each exhibition.
3. **Adjournment**: Dora made a motion; Sheree seconded, all approved, and the meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.