

## MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 16, 2025, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a meeting on January 16, 2025. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr.; Board and Executive Committee Chair Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey; Vice Chair Barbara M. Barrett, and Committee member Franklin Raines.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary Lonnie Bunch; Counselor to the Chief Justice Robert M. Dow, Jr.; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester; Chief Legal Officer Jennifer McIntyre; Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer Meroë Park; and Counselor and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.

### CALL TO ORDER

Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr., called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Board and Executive Committee Chair Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey reviewed the agenda, which consisted primarily of an overview of the January 27, 2025, meeting of the Board of Regents.

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the draft minutes of the December 10, 2024, meeting.

### OVERVIEW OF THE JANUARY 27, 2025, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

#### **Regents’ Dinner**

On Sunday, January 26, the Board of Regents will convene for a dinner at the Anacostia Community Museum. Prior to the dinner, Regents will tour the exhibition *A Bold and Beautiful Vision: A Century of Black Arts Education in Washington, DC, 1900-2000*.

#### **Regents’ Morning Performance**

On Monday, January 27, prior to the start of the business meeting, the Regents will have an opportunity to hear a performance by the Smithsonian’s Axelrod Quartet. The performance will honor Mozart’s 256th birthday and musicians from the Smithsonian Chamber Music Society will play Mozart’s beloved Quintet in D Major, K.593.

#### **Regents’ Morning Business Meeting**

**Report of the Chair and Executive Committee:** The Board will begin the business meeting with the Report of the Chair and Executive Committee. The report will include transitions for ex officio and Congressional Regents, upcoming events, and a review of the metrics from the Regents’ Public Forum. Actions approved by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01 will also be reviewed as part of the report.

**Smithsonian Financial Dashboard:** The Board will then review the Smithsonian’s Financial Dashboard, which was developed to provide insight to the Institution’s overall financial picture. Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey noted for the Committee that the “financial snapshot” will become a standing topic on Board meeting agendas moving forward to assist the Board of Regents in better understanding and addressing the Institution’s financial needs.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda:** Next, the Regents will be asked to approve the Consent Agenda (“Agenda”). Action items on the Agenda will include approval of the October Board meeting minutes, appointments and reappointments to 11 Smithsonian Institution advisory boards, and gifts and naming recognitions.

**Questions on Written Committee Reports:** The Regents will then have an opportunity to ask questions regarding the written reports submitted by the Advancement Committee; Audit and Review Committee; Compensation and Human Resources Committee; Facilities Committee; Finance Committee; Investment Committee; Strategy, Innovation, and Technology Committee; and Office of Government Relations.

**Report of the Governance and Nominating Committee:** Next, Committee Chair Roger Ferguson will present the report of the Governance and Nominating Committee, including two nominations to the Order of James Smithson.

**Strategic Discussion – Smithsonian Budget:** The Secretary will then lead a discussion on the Smithsonian’s Federal and Trust budget, with a focus on potential decreases to the federal appropriation and contingency planning. Finance Committee Chair Frank Raines also will present one motion for the Board’s consideration: a proposed debt restructuring for the Udvar-Hazy Center.

**Report of the Secretary:** Secretary Bunch will deliver the Report of the Secretary and update the Board on the state of the Smithsonian. The Secretary will provide updates on the public debut of the new Giant Pandas and the bill that established a commission to study the potential transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution.

**Smithsonian Science:** The Regents will then receive a preview of the strategic discussion planned for the April meeting. The Regents’ strategic meeting in April 2025 will offer a deep dive into Smithsonian science and research and explore what sets the Smithsonian’s work apart from other government agencies and science and research organizations across the globe.

**Executive Session – New Museums Site Selection:** To conclude the morning business meeting, the Board will move into an executive session to receive an update on the progress of site selection for the two new museums, including the legislative action needed to secure the Tidal Basin site and South Monument sites for the Latino Museum and Women’s Museum, respectively.

**Luncheon Program – Global Affairs:** During lunch, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy will lead a discussion with Director of the Office of Global Affairs Aviva Rosenthal on the Smithsonian’s global engagement.

### **Regents' Afternoon Business Meeting**

**Executive Session with the Secretary:** The Board will begin the afternoon deliberations in an executive session with the Secretary. The Regents will be briefed on the annual workplace culture report and receive an update on the progress of personnel searches for various leadership positions at the Smithsonian. The Regents also will consider for approval the fiscal year 2025 compensation recommendations for senior executives.

**Regents-Only Executive Session:** The Board will then move into a Regents-only executive session, during which the Board is expected to review the fiscal year 2025 compensation recommendation for the Secretary. The Regents also will be asked to approve the proposed committee chairmanships and memberships for 2025, review the results of the 2024 self-assessment, and receive an update on the search for citizen members of the Smithsonian Board of Regents.

**Gatekeepers' Session:** The Board will conclude the January meeting with an opportunity to hear from the "gatekeepers" of the Institution.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Committee moved into an executive session at approximately 12:18 p.m. to discuss confidential personnel matters.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business to consider the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, Chair

## 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 motion required approval by the Executive Committee, prior to the Board meeting in January, to accommodate the timing of related public announcements. The motion was approved via email ballot completed on December 20, 2024.

**VOTED** that the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01, recognizes the generosity of The Boeing Company, accepts the terms of the sponsorship agreement, and names the Boeing Monitoring Station, for a period of three years starting in December 2024.