

## MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2023, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) met on October 12, 2023, at the Supreme Court of the United States in Washington, D.C. Participating were Chancellor John G. Roberts, Jr. and Board and Executive Committee Chair Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey.

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; Acting General Counsel Farleigh Earhart; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester; Deputy Secretary and Chief Operating Officer Meroë Park; 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 October 23, 2023, meeting of the Board of Regents.

### OVERVIEW OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2023, MEETING OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

#### **Regents’ Dinner**

On Sunday, October 22, the Board of Regents will convene for a dinner at the National Air and Space Museum’s Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia. Prior to the dinner, Regents will have the opportunity to tour storage facilities and view collection highlights as a follow-up to the Board’s tour of the Suitland Collections Center, which took place in April 2023.

#### **Regents’ Morning Tour**

On Monday, October 23, prior to the start of the business meeting, the Regents will tour the *Entertainment Nation* exhibition at the National Museum of American History. The Regents will have an opportunity to view the 7,200-square-foot, multimedia exhibition, which displays approximately 200 objects and is the largest long-term bilingual exhibition on the National Mall.

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

**Report of the Chair and Executive Committee:** Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey will deliver the Report of the Chair and Executive Committee. She will recognize transitions for Smithsonian liaisons and staff. Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey also will brief the Regents on upcoming events and review actions approved by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Board of Regents pursuant to Board Bylaw 3.01.

**Approval of the Consent Agenda:** The Regents will be asked to approve the Consent Agenda (“Agenda”). Action items on the Agenda will include approval of the June Board meeting minutes, appointments and reappointments to Smithsonian advisory boards, proposed amendments to the bylaws of three Smithsonian 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 Audit and Review Committee, Finance Committee, Investment Committee, and Office of Government Relations.

**Report of the Governance and Nominating Committee:** Committee Chair Roger Ferguson will present the report of the Governance and Nominating Committee. The Board will be asked to consider proposed amendments to the Audit and Review Committee Charter, candidates for appointment or reappointment to the Board of Trustees of the National Museum of the American Latino, and an emeritus appointment to the Commission of the Smithsonian American Art Museum. The Board also will discuss membership on the Asian Pacific American Center Advisory Board and Investment Committee membership.

**Report of the Advancement Committee:** Committee Chair Christine Udvar-Hazy will deliver the report of the Advancement Committee. The Board will be briefed on the proposed revised guidelines for assessing reputational risk and updated language in Smithsonian policies and gift agreements regarding removal of naming recognitions.

**Report of the Facilities Committee:** Committee Chair John Fahey will present the report of the Facilities Committee. The Board will be asked to consider a request to execute a five-year lease extension at the Victor Building in Washington D.C.

**Report of the Secretary:** Next, 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 site selection, the federal budget, and visitation numbers. The Secretary also will report on the Smithsonian Human Remains Policy and new Union leadership at the American Federation of Government Employees.

**Luncheon Program – Artificial Intelligence:** During lunch, the Secretary and Head of Digital Transformation Becky Kobberod will lead a discussion on artificial intelligence (“AI”) as it relates to the Smithsonian and the Institution’s strategic initiatives. The discussion will explore the many ways the Smithsonian can benefit from the use of AI, including enhancing visitor experiences, curatorial efforts, research, conservation, and operational efficiency while balancing a thoughtful approach to the emerging technology and preserving the Smithsonian’s cultural and educational mission.

### **Regents’ Afternoon Business Meeting**

**Collections Care and Space Planning:** To begin the afternoon session, the Secretary and his leadership team, including Under Secretary for Museums and Culture Kevin Gover and Under Secretary for Science and Research Ellen Stofan will lead a discussion on the current and long-term goals and needs required for the stewardship of the Smithsonian’s collections. The discussion will be a follow-up to the Regents’ April tour of the Suitland Collections Center and the Sunday tour of the Udvar-Hazy Center including the Dulles Collections Center.

**America250 and the Smithsonian:** To conclude the afternoon open session of the meeting, the Regents will have an opportunity to learn more about the Smithsonian’s plans for the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States' founding to be recognized in 2026. The Secretary will highlight the opportunities that the Smithsonian may have to celebrate, commemorate, and contemplate with communities around the country – both on and off the National Mall.

**Executive Session with the Secretary:** The Board will then move into an executive session with the Secretary to discuss Congressional matters.

**Regents-Only Executive Session:** The Board will continue its deliberations in a Regents-only executive session, during which the Board is expected to review the Regents’ 2023 annual self-assessment and vote on Board leadership for 2024.

**Gatekeepers’ Session:** The Board will conclude the October meeting with its regular session to hear from the “gatekeepers” of the Institution.

## ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey, Chair