

Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Board of Trustees

**Wednesday, May 21, 2025
de Young Museum - Koret Auditorium
50 Hagiwara Tea Garden Drive
San Francisco, CA 94118**

Draft Meeting Minutes

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm by Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Ohlone Land Acknowledgement

Thomas P. Campbell, Director and CEO read the Ohlone Land Acknowledgment

Calling of the Roll

The roll was called by Jenny Sonnenschein, Executive Assistant to the Director and CEO and Board Administrator

Board Members Present:

Tobi Adamolekun

Jamie Bowles, Vice President

Margaret Conley

David Frazee

Thomas Horn

Dorka Keehn

Jason Moment, President

Carl Pascarella

Diane Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Board Members on Zoom:

None

Board Members Absent:

Jack Calhoun

Bryan Meehan

Heather Preston

Approval of the Minutes - Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Mrs. Wilsey called for approval of minutes. Upon motion, duly second there was no discussion among Trustees. There was no comment from the public. The minutes of the April 2, 2025 meeting of the Board of Trustees, having been delivered in advance to all trustees, were unanimously approved.

Report of the President - Jason Moment, President

Jason Moment invited Jamie Bowles to give the report on retirements and re-elections

Retirements

Jamie Bowles announced the retirement of the following Trustees from the Board as of May 21, 2025:

David Frazee

Bryan Meehan

Jason Moment

Heather Preston, M.D.

Re-election

Carl Pascarella was presented for re-election to a seventh three-year term.

Motion: made and seconded

Vote: All in favor

Result: Approved

Public Comment

Public comment was invited on all matters pertaining to the closed session. There was no public comment.

Vote on Whether to Hold Closed Session

A vote was conducted on whether to enter into closed session to recommend a trustee to be considered for election by the full Board of Trustees, in accordance with San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b).

Motion: Motion to hold closed session made by Diane B. Wilsey

Seconded: Jason Moment

Result: Approved

Closed Session

The Board entered a closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(b) to consider and possibly take action on the recommendation for election to the Board of Trustees.

Vote on Whether to Disclose Discussions Held in Closed Session

Ms. Bowles reminded the Committee the Board typically opts not to disclose closed session discussions to protect both candidate privacy and open deliberation.

Motion: Motion not to disclose closed session made by

Seconded:

Call for Vote:

Result: Approved

Adjournment of Closed Session

The closed session was adjourned

Report on Action Taken in Closed Session

Ms. Bowles reported the following, in accordance with Government Code Section 54957 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b)(4):

- The Board of Trustees in closed session elected David Spencer as a Trustee to the FAMSF Board.
- This action and the position affected are required to be reported.

Call for Vote: Jamie Bowles

Result: David Spencer was elected as a Trustee to the FAMSF Board, effective May 21, 2025.

Mr. Moment then introduced the following resolution resetting the number of trustee positions:

WHEREAS, On June 14, 1990, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco Bylaws were amended to provide for a variable number of Trustees, the exact number to be set by the Board from time to time; now, therefore, be it

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustee of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby set the number of Trustees at eight (8) until such number is changed by this Board.

Motion: Made by Thomas Horn

Seconded: Jamie Bowles

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: **Resolution Number XXXX** is hereby adopted and recorded in the official minutes

Thomas Horn, having already confirmed David Spencer's willingness to serve, nominated him for President of the FAMSF Board. No other nominations were received.

Motion: Motion not to appoint David Spencer as President of FAMSF made by Thomas Horn

Seconded: Jamie Bowles

Call for Vote: Jamie Bowles

Result: Approved David Spencer is the next President of the FAMSF Board.

Mr. Moment offered comments on the retirement of Megan Bourne, Secretary to the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Wilsey joined in to share Megan's growth and accomplishments during her tenure

and her immense appreciation for Megan and her work at the Fine Arts Museums. Mr. Moment then read the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the current Board Secretary has retired from the position of Secretary of the Board;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to appoint a new Board Secretary to carry out the duties associated with that office;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Jenny Sonnenschein is appointed as Secretary to the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

Motion: Made by Thomas Horn

Seconded: Jamie Bowles

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: **Resolution Number XXXX** is hereby adopted and recorded in the official minutes

Report of the Acquisitions Committee - Thomas P. Campbell on behalf of William R. Hearst III, Fine Arts Museums Foundation Acquisitions Committee Chair

Mr. Moment called on Thomas Campbell to give the report of the May 8, 2025 Acquisitions Committee on behalf of William R. Hearst. Director Campbell reported that in the March 20, 2025 Acquisitions committee meeting 4 purchases; 8 funded purchases; 75 gifts, 1 first step deaccession, 2 reverse step deaccession and 7 second-step deaccessions. Mr. Campbell went on to share acquisition highlights - Zoe Longfield's *Glacier*; Sonia Gechtoff's *Lucia and the Wave*; *I Leilah Babirye's* ceramic *Nakimbugwe from the Kuchu Royal Family of Buganda*; and *Chrysanthemum* by Pat Lipsky.

Motion: Made by Diane B. Wilsey

Seconded: Jamie Bowles

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: The May 8, 2025 Report of the Acquisitions Committee is unanimously approved.

Report of the Director and CEO - Thomas P. Campbell, Director and CEO

Mr. Campbell thanked Jason Moment for his leadership over the past 6 years. He also thanked Megan Bourne for her work across multiple areas of the museums' activities and her role as mentor to the leadership team.

Mr. Campbell then called for approval of loan requests listed in Appendix C.

Motion: Made by Jason Moment

Seconded: David Frazee

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: The board voted unanimously to approve the loan requests.

Museums updates were given beginning with the exhibition program. All exhibitions have been receiving strong media attention. Work is going on to update the Native American galleries. In the fall we look forward to *Art of Manga*, opening in September 2025 at the de Young and *Manet & Morisot*, opening in October 2025 at the Legion of Honor.

Free Saturdays continue to drive strong attendance. Since the program's launch in 2019, it has welcomed over 714,000 visitors, including 125,000 this fiscal year.

de Youngsters Day out had a record turnout with 7,700+ visitors. Notable guests included Mayor Lurie, Senator Weiner, and other SF officials.

The Education program served approximately 225,000 visitors of all ages and abilities. Programs include public, school, and family engagement, as well as interpretive work to enhance accessibility. Contributions include gallery didactics, guided tours, and in-person facilitation. Education launched a new collection of audio and digital tours available in Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, and English.

Jason Seifer is in regular communication with the City regarding capital needs and priorities. Through City funding the museums are currently working on Building Management System (BMS) Upgrades, full rebuild of Chiller 3 at the Legion of Honor and a rebuild of on the Cooling Towers at the de Young. Gratitude was expressed for the City's continued support and partnership in maintaining the integrity of both museum facilities.

The City's budget process is ongoing. Efforts are underway to identify cost-saving measures and trim the budget where possible. Jason Seifer, CFO will present the latest budget update.

Report of the CFO - Jason Seifer, Chief Financial and Administrative Officer

Mr. Seifer reported that the City budget process is still in progress. The City continues to face a two-year deficit projection of \$876M. The museums are being asked to implement Mandatory reductions: FY26 15% (\$3.3M) and FY27 15% (\$3.3M). To reach this target reduction the museums have proposed a reduced security headcount of 1 Manager and 19 Guard Positions and a reduced operational headcount of 1 HR Analyst, 1 Stationary Engineer, 1 Museum Registrar, 1 Admission Attendant.

Mr. Seifer then gave updates on the newly formed Commission Streamlining Taskforce which has been formed to determine how board members/commissioners are appointed and removed, eliminating boards/commissions that are redundant or no longer serve a purpose, consolidating boards/commissions with similar functions, and assessing who has the authority to appoint and

remove a City department head. Task Force must review the structure of the City's commissions and make its recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors by **February 1, 2026**.

Mr. Moment then called for a Consideration and Possible Action to Adopt two resolutions: Resolution Acknowledging Funding Expended by the Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums During the Period January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025

WHEREAS, The Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that exist to support the activities of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby acknowledge with gratitude funding in the amount of \$16,382,696 expended by the Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums for operations during the period January 1, 2025 – March 31, 2025.

Motion: Made and seconded

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: Resolution Number XXXX is hereby adopted and recorded in the official minutes

Next he called for Consideration and Possible Action to Adopt a Resolution to Transfer Funds in the Admission Fund for the Fiscal Year 2025–2026

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco does hereby authorize the Controller of the City and County of San Francisco to transfer monthly excess revenue general admission over monthly admission operating expenses in the Admission Fund (11940-SR Museums Admission) to Authority Code 17041, Project Code 10023196 (FA Fine Arts Operating Rev/Exp), Account Code 535990 on a monthly basis for the Fiscal Year 2025–2026; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the funds in Project 10023196 are to be used to reimburse the Corporation of the Fine Arts Museums for expenses incurred on behalf of the Museums.

Motion: Made and seconded

Vote: All in favor

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Result: Resolution Number XXXX is hereby adopted and recorded in the official minutes

Curatorial Presentation – Hillary Olcott, Curator of Arts of the Americas

Mr. Moment call on Hillary Olcott to give an overview of the Native American Gallery Reinstallation Project. Ms. Olcott shared the project goal, timeline, gave an overview of the team working on the project and the funders who have contributed to make the work possible. She also gave a preview of works that will be on display when the galleries re-open to the public, highlighting recent acquisitions and commissions.

Public Comment: There was no public comment

General Public Comment - Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita

Mrs. Wilsey invited members of the public to address the Board of Trustees. There was no comment from the public.

Adjournment

Diane B. Wilsey, Chair Emerita, adjourned the meeting at 3:56 pm