

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY  
PLANETARIUM AUTHORITY**

September 29, 2016  
Perkins Reading Room - RCES  
1:00 p.m.

**Directors Present:** Planetarium Authority Chairman Katheryn Patterson; Alfred C. Cerullo, III; Ross Sandler

**Directors Absent:** None

**AMNH Staff Present:** Dan Slippen, Executive Director for the American Museum of Natural History Planetarium Authority ("Planetarium Authority"); Ann Siegel, Senior Vice President of Operations and Capital Programs of the American Museum of Natural History ("AMNH"); Jackie Powers, pro bono legal counsel for the Planetarium Authority; Gerald R. Singer, Senior Vice President and General Counsel of AMNH; Ellen Gallagher, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of AMNH; Milton Yuen, Controller of AMNH; and Robert Hurley, Associate Controller of AMNH

**Others Present:** Edward Miller

Call to Order

Planetarium Authority Chairman Katheryn Patterson called the meeting to order and welcomed all those in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Directors in attendance unanimously approved the minutes of the September 28, 2015 meeting of the Directors of the American Museum of Natural History Planetarium Authority in the form previously distributed as part of the September 29, 2016 Board book.**

Report of the Executive Director

Dan Slippen, Executive Director of the Planetarium Authority, reported on the activities of the Rose Center for Earth and Space ("RCES"). He reported that the Museum's ticketed attendance was 4.3 million visitors, which includes all paid and ticketed visitors, covering all of the Museum's regular programming such as IMAX movies, Space Shows, temporary special exhibitions and recurring live animal exhibitions.

The Museum and the Planetarium welcomed 430,083 school and camp children, including their teachers, of which 63,826 viewed the Planetarium Space Show. Of the

total 430,083 school children (including their teachers/chaperones) who visited the Museum, 325,535 or 75% were from NYC schools.

Total Ticketed Attendance for the Space Show was 711,258, which is a 17.2% decrease from FY15's 858,724 and had a capture rate of 21.7%, which is a 0.88% increase over FY15. Paid Attendance for the Space Show was 620,828, which is a 17.3% decrease from FY15. Mr. Slippen noted that the lower attendance was due to the fact that the CityPass recipients now had the choice of redeeming either the Space Show or IMAX, whereas previously it was only good for the Space Show and because the Space Show was closed for an extended period during the Rose Center façade restoration.

The Hayden Planetarium held 30 programs last year serving 15,695 in FY16 which is 1,976 more than FY15. The Annual Isaac Asimov Debate saw 900 attendees FY16. Panelists discussed what started out as a science fiction speculation that the universe could be a computer simulation and has now become a serious line of theoretical and experimental investigation among physicists, astrophysicists, and philosophers. The annual debate took place on April 5, 2016, and was hosted by Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, Director of the Hayden Planetarium.

400 visitors also came to the Hayden Planetarium to celebrate Manhattanhenge, which is when the sun sets in direct alignment with the Manhattan street grid system.

Ann Siegel, Senior Vice President of Operations and Capital Programs, reported on the Rose Center for Earth and Space façade restoration. She noted that this project finished 2 months earlier than planned. Ventilation in the Rose Center has also been improved. The Space Show now has a new seamless screen, and improved lighting and seats. Ms. Siegel reported that the Cullman Hall of the Universe, including the AstroBulletin, will also get an upgrade. The last improvements to the Hall were made in 2010. She also noted that construction of the new Gilder Center for Science, Education and Innovation will have no impact on the Rose Center.

#### Approval of the FY16 Audited Financials

**Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Directors in attendance unanimously approved the FY16 Audited Financial Statements for the American Museum of Natural History Planetarium Authority in the form included as part of the September 29, 2016 Board book, which was previously distributed to the Board.**

#### Adjournment

There being no further business, the Directors in attendance unanimously approved a motion duly made and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.