

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT APPROPRIATION SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON EDUCATION  
January 14, 1981

The meeting on the Historical Society was called to order at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, January 14, 1981 by Chairman Donaldson in Room 104, Capitol Bldg., Helena, Montana.

All members were present except for Rep. Thoft who was excused. Fiscal Analysts were also present.

Prior to the meeting Bruce Shively gave his briefing on the Historical Society. (EXHIBIT A) He discussed the seven operational units.

TOM CROSSER gave the Executive Budget Office's recommendation. The Executive recommendation is based on current level funding for all programs.

ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM is the first program. The Executive recommended four modifications for this program. It also includes .75 FTE and \$14,000 per year. The Administration's salaries were formerly funded by Federal indirect costs. The Executive also recommends approximately \$13,552 for trustee travel and honorarium. They also recommend \$75,000 spending authority in each year of the biennium for an Educational Outreach Program. This is a program that is currently operative at the Historical Society. The Executive also recommends \$129,870 in FY 82 and \$134,045 for FY 83 for the Montana Heritage Program. The Heritage Program was contained in Governor Schwinden's amendments to the Judge Budget. The Heritage Program consists of an educational segment, a contemporary arts segment, and a history segment.

LIBRARY PROGRAM is the second program. The Executive recommended that funding for this program be kept at current level for the 1983 biennium.

MUSEUM PROGRAM is the third program. The Executive allowed exceptions for inflation in this program. The Executive also recommended a modification in this program for a Cataloger position. That particular modification is 1 FTE and approximately \$40,000 General funds and \$40,000 donated funds over the biennium. Funding for this program is matched. The Executive also recommended an additional FTE, Curator, and associated operating costs to staff the Original Governor's Mansion during the next biennium.

PUBLICATION PROGRAM is the fourth program. This also would be kept at the current level. A modification is contained in the Executive Budget based on the estimated cost to maintain the quality of the magazine in its present state and prevent additional supplemental funding.

MERCHANDISING PROGRAM is the fifth program. The Executive recommended current level funding with no modification. The Merchandising Program provides additional funds to the Museum Program through the \$20,000 Earmark for Conservation.

HISTORICAL SITES PROGRAM is the sixth program. This program is funded at current level.

ARCHIVES PROGRAM is the seventh program. There were several adjustments made and is at current level. The Executive recommended a modification in this program for a Photo Technician. This position would be funded partially out of the General fund and partially out of the revolving funds.

DR. BOB ARCHIBALD ASSISTED BY LINDA GAMBLE gave testimony. Dr. Archibald gave a brief overview of the services and functions of the Historical Society. In the back of the handout given by Dr. Archibald there is also a breakdown of the budget. (EXHIBIT B)

HAL STEARNS stated that the Historical Society was the very first state agency funded in 1864. This society has brought benefits to the people and that takes time.

JENNIFER THOMPSON next testified in support of the Historical Society's programs that assist the schools. The Montana Collage (EXHIBIT D) which was handed out can be obtained simply by the teacher calling and requesting it. There's a new project in process, The Footlocker Exhibit and it will be available sometime late spring. This contains artifacts, photographs, facsimilies, reproductions, study guides and documents.

MRS. JEAN BAUCUS testified in support of the research assistance she has recieved from the Historical Society. She put together a book on old homes in Helena. She stated that she could not have done it without their help and their material resources. And now she is putting together a book on the business districts in Helena using photographs. This Archives Program could assist her.

ERIC MYHRE, who is on the Board of Trustees of the Historical Society introduced the following witnesses who are on the Board of Trustees: Sue Bovey, Wilbur Werner, Mrs. Louis Hagener. Mr. Myhre testified that they need the additional \$75,000 and that the museum has been the same for 25 years. He stated that the library needs to microfilm these newspapers before they are gone.

DAVE GOSS from the Chamber of Commerce in Billings, Montana gave his testimony regarding what the Historical Society has done in Billings. (EXHIBIT E)

WILBUR WERNER testified to the fact that the 12 years he has been on the Board of Trustees he has definitely seen improvement on the policies and operations of the Society. He supported the requests of the Society.

MRS. LOUIS HAGENER responded that as a teacher she was often looking for resources in history and that the resources most available were through the Historical Society, the Archives, the Library and even through the museum exhibits. She stated that these are local services and they have the resources and background people need.

DR. BOB ARCHIBALD mentioned the fact that the society reduced two things with their Merchandising Program:

- (1) an inventory that was a very substantial part of our excessive needs
- (2) operating expenses and have modified some of that inventory

The profit with the Merchandising Program is approximately \$20,000 to \$25,000. There is a \$20,000 earmarked revenue. The Merchandising Program a few years back had a \$50,000 to \$60,000 debt and that has been paid off.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m. to go into Executive Session.

REP. GENE DONALDSON, Chairman