



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
FRIDAY, July 17, 2026 – 1:00 P.M. EDT
THOMAS D. CLARK KENTUCKY HISTORY CENTER, BROWN-FORMAN ROOM B
In Person and Also via Zoom Teleconference

AGENDA

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

In Person: Mary Berry, Tommy Druen, Mason Dyer, Tommy Hines, Lora Suttles Hutchison, Sheila Mason, Jack Mazurak, Bobbie Smith Bryant, Suzzane Wells Miell

Via video conference: Ryan Craig, Dee Davis, Scott Keadle, Alicestyne Turley, Tina Wei Smith

GUESTS PRESENT:

In Person: Sec. Lindy Casebier (TAHC), Maggie McAdams (KMHA)

Online: Amanda Matthews (KOHK)

KHS STAFF PRESENT:

In-Person: Scott Alvey, Leah Craig, Kathey Golightly-Sanders, Stuart Sanders, Chaka Cummings, Jonathan Noffke, Dana Zinger, Kirsten Kindrick, Michael Cruikshank, Chuck Welsko

I. Call to Order/Welcome

President Sheila Mason called the meeting of the Kentucky Historical Society Governing Board to order at approximately 1:06 PM EDT. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of Minutes of April 17, 2026, Board Meeting

The minutes of the April 17, 2026, Governing Board meeting were distributed to the board in advance electronically and included in the meeting packet. President Mason called for any additions or corrections. There were none.

Motion by Tommy Druen, second by Bobbie Smith Bryant, that the minutes be approved as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

III. Reports:

A. Committees/Commissions

Executive Director Scott Alvey welcomed Secretary Lindy Casebier and thanked him for his continued support of the Kentucky Historical Society. Secretary Casebier commended KHS staff for their successful execution of major statewide initiatives, including America250KY programming, the July 4 celebration, Kentucky History Day, and support for former Governor Martha Layne Collins' funeral services, while recognizing the Society's role in Kentucky's record-

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breaking tourism industry. He expressed appreciation for the professionalism and dedication of the staff and encouraged the Board to continue supporting KHS's statewide mission. Following his remarks, Alvey thanked Secretary Casebier and shared a brief video highlighting the July 4 celebration.

President Sheila Mason reviewed the Governing Board committee assignments and announced that committee descriptions and responsibilities would be distributed following the meeting. She encouraged committees to hold organizational meetings by the end of August.

Executive Director Alvey reviewed the FY 2026 budget included in the board packet, highlighting expenditures related to America250KY programming and grant awards to KET, Kentucky Humanities, and the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage to conclude the America250 grant program.

Amanda Matthews, Chair of the Kentucky Oral History Commission, reported that the Commission awarded three Fiscal Year 2026 grants to projects in Fayette, Letcher, and Boyd counties. She also invited Board members to attend the Commission's 50th Anniversary Lunch and Learn on October 9.

B. Executive Director

Executive Director Scott Alvey provided updates on the conclusion of the America250 Commission, highlighting efforts to establish lasting initiatives through educational resources, community programming, the Liberty Tree Project, and partnerships with Kentucky Educational Television. He announced that KHS had been selected to receive the 2026 Award of Excellence from the American Association for State and Local History for *Our Stories, Our Service: Kentucky's Women Veterans*.

Leah Craig reported on implementation of the agency's new SharePoint intranet and purchase request system, ongoing personnel policy review, planning for a classification and compensation study, and continued development of the *Revolution to Statehood* exhibit and expanded student programming.

Kathey Golightly-Sanders reported that the KHS Foundation welcomed four new Foundation Board members and provided an update on Foundation activities and fundraising efforts.

Executive Director Scott Alvey highlighted Kentucky History Day and shared a video with the board.

Dana Zinger provided an update on the KHS branding campaign and America250KY marketing efforts, noting that KHS social media engagement continues to grow, including more than 13,000 new Facebook followers.





C. Membership Report

Director of Marketing and Communications Dana Zinger reported continued public engagement through America250KY initiatives, noting that the online community events calendar became one of the most visited pages on the KHS website. She also provided membership and outreach updates, highlighting continued efforts to strengthen public awareness and engagement through statewide programming and digital communications.

Motion by Tommy Druen, second by Jack Mazurak, that the new and renewed memberships presented be accepted. The motion unanimously carried.

IV. Old Business:

A. KHS FY 27/28 Budget

Executive Director Scott Alvey reported that, following Karen Marlowe's departure, staff have continued working to close out Fiscal Year 2026, prepare the FY 2027–2028 budget, and strengthen financial procedures. Alvey then presented the FY 2027 operating budget included in the board packet.

Motion by Mary Berry, second by Tommy Druen to approve the FY27 operating budget as presented in the board packet. The motion unanimously carried.

President Sheila Mason requested Board approval to remove Karen Marlowe and Linda Redmon as authorized signers on the Kentucky Historical Society's WesBanco bank account and to add Executive Director Scott Alvey and Deputy Director Leah Craig as authorized signers. President Mason read a letter, to be signed by President Mason and Executive Director Alvey, authorizing the change and to be presented to WesBanco upon approval by the Governing Board.

Motion by Lora Suttles Hutchison, second by Jack Mazurak, to approve the requested changes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Old State Capitol Project

Director of Historical Resources Jonathan Noffke provided an update on the Old State Capitol restoration project, noting that planning and coordination continue following the General Assembly's approval of project funding. Executive Director Alvey emphasized the importance of maintaining collaboration with state partners as the project advances through the planning and design phases and reiterated the long-term significance of the restoration for both KHS and the Commonwealth.

C. Joint Board Retreat

President Sheila Mason discussed plans for the joint Governing Board and Foundation Board retreat to be held September 24–25 at The Stanford. She explained that the retreat will focus on strengthening collaboration between the boards, committee responsibilities, and long-term strategic priorities.



V. New Business

A. KHS Historical Marker Review

Dr. Chuck Welsko presented the recommendations of the Historical Marker Program's External Review Committee, which recommended 12 new historical markers representing 12 counties across the Commonwealth. He noted that the recommended markers reflect the Society's continued effort to broaden representation and outreach to communities across Kentucky.

Motion by Tommy Druen, second by Bobbie Smith Bryant, to approve the Historical Marker Review Committee's recommendations as presented in the board packet. The motion unanimously carried.

B. Collection Activities

Director of Historical Resources, Jonathan Noffke provided an overview of the Society's current collecting efforts and encouraged Board members to identify collections within their communities that tell stories of statewide significance. Updates included work to revise the KHS collecting plan and plans for a future community-curated exhibition in the Keeneland Gallery that will invite the public to help select objects from the Society's collections. Noffke noted these efforts are intended to strengthen public engagement while expanding representation within the collections.

VI. Announcements/Adjournment:

- A. Kentucky Museums & Heritage Alliance update by Maggie McAdams.
- B. Next board meeting: Friday, October 16, 2026
- C. Annual Meeting: Friday, November 6, 2026

With no further business to come before the Kentucky Historical Society Governing Board, Motion by Lora Suttles Hutchison, second by Tommy Druen, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:39 PM EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Kirsten Kindrick





**KENTUCKY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

DRAFT

2026 Donations to the Kentucky Historical Society (04/15/2026 – 07/15/2026)

Accession #	Donor	Description of Gift
2026.09	USS Kentucky	- Flag flown onboard on March 31st, 2026
2026.10	KCHEA – Jessica Evans	- One oral history with Lawren Watson conducted on 3/4/2023
2026.11	Ruthmarie Ferris	- Old Grand Dad Golf Tournament Golf Tees
2026.12*	Kemyia Hardin	- 01 Pin from "Governor's 2026 Derby Eve Celebration"
2026.13	Anonymous	- 1950-Greetings to the Kentucky State association and - 1957- Louisville Lions Club
2026.14*	Lisa Bryant	- Louie Nunn Driver's License
2026.15	Found in Collection	- Interview with Joseph Burgess, September 26, 2009 on a CD converted to .wav format.
2026.16	Union County Public Library District	- 3 cassette tapes covering two oral histories: Markham-Union County History and Prudy Oglesby/Mieen Holt / Betty Wells
2026.17	Deborah Basore	- 1 ledger belonging to William Mayo of Floyd County/Prestonsburg.
2026.18*	Karen Moritz	- A disbound scrapbook containing photos of Goble in service - A cover with a carved airplane design (1944) - A set of loose-leaf letters written to wife and Goble's motor vehicle permit. - A folder of copied photos - Tech Sergeant Insignia - "Yank Correspondent work" insignia - One folder of larger photos from Goble's WWII service in Japan - Lee Ebner original illustrations for Courier Journal, c. 1940s
2026.19*	Ayn Maddox	- 06 letters written by Kenneth Maddox to his aunt and uncle
2026.20*	Sarah Gayle Randolph	- 02 Louisville Railway Tokens
2026.21*	Ken Dennis	- Uniform and documents from Kenneth A Dennis USAAC/USAAF - Uniform, documents, Japanese bayonet and Japanese good luck flag from John E Dennis USMC

*** Designates a signed deed of gift has not yet been returned, meaning the collection is not yet considered accessioned.**

The Kentucky Historical Society 2025 Loan Report – April 15- July 15, 2026

Outgoing Loans

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In April the Major John M. Scott Coatee was loaned to the **Frazier Kentucky History Museum** for the Exhibit **I too am a Kentuckian**.

In July 23 items, including a Hatchel, a Tobacco Knife, and a Wall Box from the shed row at Keeneland and training gear were loaned to the **Lexington Public Library** for display during the **Kentucky History and Genealogy Conference** on August.

In July a **ruby stained-glass teacup made at the 1895 Owensboro Fair** was loaned to the **Owensboro Museum of Fine Arts** for the **KY250** exhibition.

Outgoing Loan Returns

In April the Washington Overcoat returned from its treatment at **River Region Costume and Textile Conservation**.

In April the Portrait of Thomas Jefferson has returned from its treatment at **Mckay Lodge Conservation Lab**

Outgoing Long term Loan Renewals

KHS has renewed the Loan of the USS Kentucky silverware with Historic Properties – at that time 2 items were changed (the Punch Bowl and Ladle were returned in exchange for a Serving Tray and a Pitcher)

Incoming Loan

In May, **Mel Hankla** agreed to loan **18 items** (like **Samuel Ellis Sword, William Fleming Powder Horn, Isaac Shelby - Snuff Mull and Patrick Ferguson's brace of pistols**) of his private collection for the exhibition **Courage of the Commonwealth/Battles and Campaigns in the War for Independence** on display in **A Kentucky Journey**.

In May, **Clifton Anderson** agreed to loan a Portrait of Isaac Shelby and an Engraving of Isaac Shelby for the exhibition **Courage of the Commonwealth/Battles and Campaigns in the War for Independence** on display in **A Kentucky Journey**.

In May, **The Filson Historical Society** agreed to loan a **Portrait of George Rogers Clark by James Reid Lambdin** for the exhibition **Courage of the Commonwealth/Battles and Campaigns in the War for Independence** on display in **A Kentucky Journey**.



Incoming Long term Loan Renewals

KHS has renewed the loan of the 1963 Chrysler Imperial LeBaron with **Steve Reeder**, which is currently on display in A Kentucky Journey. The loan has been renewed through June 2027.

Incoming Loan Returns

The nametag was returned to Jenean Hampton in April, it was on loan for the Exhibit Our Stories, Our Service since 2023.