

I declare under penalty of perjury that I am employed by the Town of Yucca Valley, in the Community Services Department, and that I posted this Agenda at the designated locations in the Town of Yucca Valley on 3/3/16

3/3/16
Date

[Signature]
Signature

MEETING AGENDA

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION**

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016

4:30 PM

JOSHUA TREE ROOM

YUCCA VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX

57090 TWENTYNINE PALMS HIGHWAY

YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 92284

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION

Eric Quander, Commissioner

Laurine Silver, Commissioner

Ed Keesling, Vice Chair

Randy Eigner, Chair

Curtis Yakimow, Town Manager

Susan Earnest, Community Services Manager

Maureen S. Neely, Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICE 760-369-7211

www.yucca-valley.org

AGENDA

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

*The Town of Yucca Valley complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.
If you require special assistance to attend or participate in this meeting,
please call the Town Clerk's office at 369-7209 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

(WHERE APPROPRIATE OR DEEMED NECESSARY, ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY ITEM LISTED ON THE AGENDA)

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commissioner Quander, Commissioner Silver, Vice Chair Keesling, Chair Eigner.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by _____

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission Agenda

Recommendation: Move to approve the agenda of the March 8, 2016
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission meeting.

Action Motion _____
Move _____ 2nd _____ Roll Call Vote _____

All items listed on the consent calendar are considered to be routine matters or are considered formal documents covering previous Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission instruction. The items listed on the consent calendar may be enacted in one motion and a second. There will be no separate discussion of the consent calendar items unless a member of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission or Town Staff requests discussion on specific consent calendar items at the beginning of the meeting. Public requests to comment on consent calendar items should be filed with the Commission Secretary before the consent calendar is called.

**AGENDA
TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION
TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission meeting of February 9, 2016.

Recommendation: Move to approve minutes as presented.

2. Museum Report

Recommendation: Move to receive and file the Hi Desert Nature Museum Monthly Report for February 2016.

Recommendation: Approve Consent Agenda (items 1-2)

Action	Motion _____
	Move _____ 2 nd _____ Roll Call Vote _____

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

3. Town Recognition of the Star Twirlers Club

Recommendation: Move to approve the proclamation recognizing the Star Twirlers Club and direct staff to forward to the Town Council for consideration.

Action	Motion _____
	Move _____ 2 nd _____ Roll Call Vote _____

4. Hi-Desert Nature Museum 2016-2020 Draft Strategic Plan Review

Recommendation: Move to approve the Hi-Desert Nature Museum 2016-2020 Draft Strategic Plan and direct staff to forward the item to the Town Council for consideration.

Action Motion _____
Move _____ 2nd _____ Roll Call Vote _____

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Park Renaming Review
Lighting at Parks
Youth Commission Update

PUBLIC COMMENTS

In order to assist in the orderly and timely conduct of the meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission takes this time to consider your comments on items of concern which are not on the agenda. When you are called to speak, please state your name and community of residence. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less. Inappropriate behavior which disrupts, disturbs or otherwise impedes the orderly conduct of the meeting will result in forfeiture of your public comment privileges. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission is prohibited by State law from taking action or discussing items not included on the printed agenda.

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

5. Commissioner Quander
6. Commissioner Silver
7. Vice Chair Keesling
8. Chair Eigner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission is scheduled for April 12, 2016 at 4:30pm in the Joshua Tree Room of the Yucca Valley Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

**TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY
PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2016

CALL TO ORDER by Chair Eigner at 4:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Town Management Analyst Rice

ROLL CALL Commissioners present: Commissioners Keesling, Quander, Silver and Chair Eigner. Commissioner Hill was absent (resigned.)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: **Move to approve the agenda of the February 9, 2016 Parks, Recreation & Cultural Commission**

Move: Silver 2nd Keesling Roll Call Vote: 4-0-0-1

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Museum Report

Recommendation: Move to receive and file the Hi Desert Nature Museum Monthly Report for November, December 2015 and January 2016.

Action: **Approve Consent Agenda (items 1)**

Move: Quander 2nd Silver Roll Call Vote 4-0-0-1

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

2. Overview of Town-Wide Grant Process

Town Management Analyst Rice presented the staff report, giving an overview of the Town-wide grant process. Prioritizing factors used before seeking a grant was explained, noting that not all grants are cost effective due to the amount of

administrative oversight and reporting needed with some grants. Rice reviewed the grants the Town currently utilizes.

Chair Eigner opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Management Analyst Rice fielded commissioner inquiries on the grant process.

Action: **Move to receive and file the Overview of Town Wide Grant Process Report.**

Move: Keesling 2nd Quander Vote: 4-0-0-1

3. **Paradise Park Program History and Park Improvements Update**

Community Services Manager Earnest presented the staff report, giving an overview of the recreational programming at Paradise Park from 2006 to current. Earnest also gave an update on scheduled improvements at the park.

Chair Eigner opened public comments. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

Action: **Move to receive and file the Paradise Park Program History and Park Improvements Update.**

Move: Quander 2nd Keesling Vote: 4-0-0-1

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Consensus was made among the Commissioners to place the following items on a future agenda:

- Square Dancing Club Recognition Review
- Park Renaming Review
- Lighting at Parks
- Youth Commission Update

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Eigner opened public comments for items not on the agenda. With no members of the public wishing to speak, public comments were closed.

STAFF REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Community Services Manager Earnest reported that Commissioner Hill has resigned from the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission and recruitment is underway. Earnest announced the upcoming Healthy Hearts 5K Run scheduled for February 20th.

Museum Programs Supervisor Ritter reported that the summer guide is being compiled and will be distributed in March.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Commissioner Quander: no comments

Commissioner Silver: spoke favorably of the installation of the stop sign installed at the corner of Yucca Trail and Warren Vista.

Vice Chair Keesling: enjoyed the past meeting with the Youth Commissioners.

Commissioner Eigner: reported on the joint meeting with the Youth Commissioners and enjoyed the information and ideas received from the group. Eigner suggested that the Town Council meet similarly with the teens.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission is scheduled for March 8, 2016 at 4:30pm in the Joshua Tree Room of the Yucca Valley Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Eigner adjourned the meeting at 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Copeland
Town Clerk

PARKS, RECREATION, CULTURAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Parks, Recreation, Cultural Commission
From: Stefanie Ritter, Museum Program Supervisor
Date: March 2, 2016
For Commission Meeting: March 8, 2016

Subject: Museum Report

Prior Commission Review: The Commission receives a monthly Museum report and update from staff.

Recommendation: Receive and file the monthly museum report for February 2016.

Summary: The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission is appointed by the Town Council to serve in an advisory capacity in matters pertaining to the primary activities of the Community Services Department. The Commission is also designated by the Council as the Museum Advisory Commission. This report is intended to inform the Commissioners of current exhibitions, events and activities at the Hi-Desert Nature Museum and to create an opportunity for Commission questions and discussion.

Order of Procedure:

- Request Staff Report
- Request Public Comment
- Commission Questions
- Motion/Second
- Discussion on Motion
- Call the Question (Roll Call Vote, Consent Agenda)

Discussion:

Current Temporary Exhibits:

The "Pollination; Keeping Company with Flowers" exhibit was on display through February 20, 2016. The "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" exhibit opened with a reception on February 26, 2016.

Museum Attendance

The month of February brought 1,564 visitors to the museum. The museum was open for 12 days during the month of February.

Reviewed By: _____ _____ _____ _____
 Town Manager Town Attorney Mgmt Services Dept Head

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input type="checkbox"/> Minute Action	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Receive and File	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Session

Museum Revenues

The museum received \$125 through the museum's donation box, \$55 for Brown Bag Lunch lectures and \$150 for Earth Day booth in February.

Upcoming Programs and Special Events

Wed., March 9, MBHS presents "Xeriscaping" presented by Mike Branning

Thur., March 17, Brown Bag Lunch Lecture "Trash Talk" presented by Karyl Newman

Advertising and Promotion:

During the month of February the Hi-Desert Nature Museum sent press releases regarding programs and special events to the following media outlets: Copper Mountain Broadcasting, Desert Entertainer, Desert Post Weekly, Desert Sun, Desert Trail, Hi-Desert Star, KESQ, KNEWS, KVCR, Palm Springs Desktop, Press Enterprise, San Bernardino Sun, Sun Runner, and Z107.7.

The museum's web site, www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org and Facebook page are continually updated with current exhibits, events, and programs.

The electronic newsletter, "Tortoise Tales," was sent to 1458 recipients on January 30, 2016.

Museum Progress on Projects and Programs in February:

Project/Program	Status	Notes
Brown Bag Lunch Lecture	Completed	February 18, "The Secret World of Bats" with Dustin Brewton, Neuroscience PhD Candidate UC Riverside Attendance: 25
MBHS presents	Completed	February 10, "Reptiles of the Morongo Basin" with Robert Black Attendance: 15
RRR Exhibit Reception	Completed	February 26, "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle" exhibition opening reception Attendance: ~250
Inventory	In Progress	
Address visitor inquiries regarding desert ecology and local history	Ongoing	
Continue developing partnerships with local agencies and community organizations	Ongoing	

Reviewed by: Staff

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission
From: Sue Earnest, Community Services Manager
Date: March 3, 2016
For Meeting: March 8, 2016

Subject: Star Twirlers Recognition

Prior Commission Review: At its meeting of December 2015, the Commission reviewed a request for recognition of the Star Twirlers of Yucca Valley. At that meeting, the Commission directed staff to return the item in the form of a recognition of the group that could be considered for recommendation to the Town Council.

Recommendation: That the Commission approve the draft proclamation recognizing the Star Twirlers and direct staff to forward the recommendation to the Town Council.

Order of Procedure:

- Request Staff Report
- Request Public Comment
- Commission Discussion/Questions of Staff
- Motion/Second
- Discussion on Motion
- Call the Question

Discussion: The Town of Yucca Valley Parks & Recreation Master Plan recognizes local culture, arts and music as a key element of the plan. Cultural arts activities scored very high as a response to resident surveys and interview questions regarding what they liked about living in Yucca Valley. Residents surveyed felt that cultural facilities and programs are a key factor in Yucca Valley's economic future. The Plan identified the Town's vibrant music and art scene as a cultural strength and asset in the community. There was a high interest in programs, events and activities presented by not only government entities, but various cultural groups and organizations.

In the winter of 2014, the Town was approached by a group that has provided square dance activities in Yucca Valley for over fifty years. Mr. Chuck Regan of the Star Twirlers presented the suggestion that the Town consider naming square dancing the official Town dance of Yucca Valley. The request was forwarded to the PRCC for consideration at its December 2016 meeting. The Commission directed staff to return with a draft proclamation as recognition for commission consideration.

Reviewed By:	<u> </u> Town Manager	<u> </u> Town Attorney	<u> </u> Mgmt Services	<u>sbe</u> Dept Head
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minute Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Receive and File	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Session

Alternatives: Modify or decline the proclamation, as desired.

Fiscal impact: None

Attachments: None

PROCLAMATION

TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY

Star Twirlers Square Dance Club

WHEREAS, the Star Twirlers Square Dance Club has been providing dance instruction and entertainment to Yucca Valley for over 54 years; and

WHEREAS, the square dance is a popular type of folk dance throughout the world. Traditionally, multiple couples perform a variety of cooperative movements to music with the prompting by the patter or singing instruction of a “caller”; and

WHEREAS, Folk dances such as square dancing, round dancing, clogging, contra, and line dancing are a traditional form of community celebration, requiring teamwork and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, the Star Twirlers Square Dance Club contributes to the goals of the Yucca Valley Parks and Recreation Master Plan to support and facilitate local recreation and the community’s arts and cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Star Twirlers Square Dance Club enhances the excellent quality of life Yucca Valley offers, enriching the lives of residents of all ages through physical activity, increased self-esteem and strong social ties;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Mayor of the Town of Yucca Valley, California, that the Yucca Valley Town Council recognizes Star Twirlers Square Dance Club, enriching the community for over 54 years.

PRESENTED THIS ____ Day in ____ 2016.

MAYOR

PARKS, RECREATION, CULTURAL COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

To: Members of the Parks, Recreation, Cultural Commission
From: Stefanie Ritter, Museum Program Supervisor
Date: March 3, 2016
For Commission Meeting: March 8, 2016

Subject: Hi-Desert Nature Museum 2016 – 2020 Draft Strategic Plan

Prior Commission Review: None.

Recommendation: Move to approve the Hi-Desert Nature Museum’s 2016-2020 Draft Strategic Plan and direct staff to forward the recommendation to the Town Council for consideration.

Summary: Staff recently completed the Hi-Desert Nature Museum’s 2016 – 2020 Draft Strategic Plan covering programs, exhibits and improvements. The report will be submitted to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Commission at the March 8, 2016 meeting, with review and comments sought for inclusion in the final review by the Town Council, scheduled for April 2016.

Order of Procedure:

- Request Staff Report
- Request Public Comment
- Commission Questions
- Motion/Second
- Discussion on Motion
- Call the Question

Discussion:

Hi-Desert Nature Museum staff recently prepared the organization’s 4 year strategic plan for 2016 – 2020 which provides an overview of the activities, programs and updates planned for the next four years. The last strategic plan was completed in 2014 and was for a two year timeframe

The new strategic plan is structured to outline updates and exhibits that will be completed within the next four years. The museum’s goal is to offer high quality programs, exhibits and events, and to make the Hi-Desert Nature Museum a tourist attraction for the Town of Yucca Valley.

Reviewed By:	_____	_____	_____	sbe
	Town Manager	Town Attorney	Mgmt Services	Dept Head

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department Report	<input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Resolution Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing
<input type="checkbox"/> Consent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minute Action	<input type="checkbox"/> Receive and File	<input type="checkbox"/> Study Session

Goal Highlights

The permanent exhibit galleries have remained unchanged for a number of years and some of the proposed improvements are:

- Rethink exhibit spaces and align exhibit contents with exhibit spaces.
- Dedicate room 3 as Natural History Wing.
- Refurbishment of certain display cases.
- Addition of temporary walls in room 3.
- Assuring exhibits conformity with museum mission statement.

Long-term Plan Challenges

The museum strives to increase its accessibility to the public. The plan proposes the addition of a part-time position Museum Aide which would allow the museum to be open one additional day per week, increasing museum access from three to four days per week.

Next Steps

Staff is requesting that the Commission review the plan and identify questions, comments or suggestions that staff might incorporate into the final draft scheduled for consideration by the Town Council in April 2016.

Alternatives: None recommended.

Fiscal Impact: None at this time.

Attachments: Hi Desert Nature Museum Strategic Plan



Strategic Plan 2016 - 2020 Hi-Desert Nature Museum

“A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.”

ICOM (*International Council of Museums*) Statutes, adopted during the 21st General Conference in Vienna, Austria, 2007



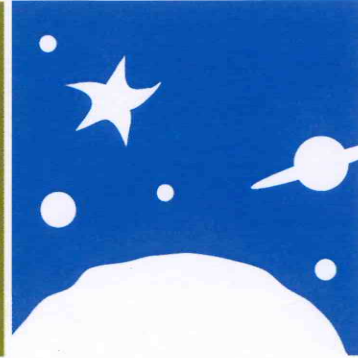


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Where to go from here...

For the past three years the Hi-Desert Nature Museum has been operating with a staff of two employees. The Museum is open three days per week. Staff secures and displays educational temporary exhibits, produces a quality summer camp and two Family Fun Days, organizes Earth Day, books speakers for lectures and offers a positive museum experience for up to 150 visitors per day.

The 2014–16 strategic plan focused on basic museum housekeeping. Collections care; including inventory and taxidermy treatments, as well as limited programming were performed. Museum staff, with the help of a few volunteers, has succeeded in accomplishing the major tasks. Staff is ready to move forward.

The Museum's new strategic plan strives to keep the museum *interesting and relevant* for the local community, as well as enticing for tourists. This requires a shift in thought and practice from previous practices. Traditionally the Museum has displayed collections in a more eclectic fashion with casual interpretation. In the future the Museum will interpret the Morongo Basin's natural and cultural history through a variety of relevant permanent and travelling exhibits in a space that is organized in a logical and coherent manner. Exhibits will be accessible for local residents and national and international tourists alike.

The following plan is in line with the Town of Yucca Valley's Mission and Vision Statements, the Town's Park Master Plan, the General Plan, as well as the recently adopted Town of Yucca Valley Strategic Plan and of course the Museum's own Mission Statement.

MISSION STATEMENT - Hi-Desert Nature Museum

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is dedicated to the process of education by exploring the natural, artistic, and cultural heritage of the Morongo Basin and High Desert. The Museum seeks to inspire wonder, discovery, understanding, and responsibility in its community and visitors through exhibitions, programs and collections in the arts, history, and natural sciences.



TOWN OF YUCCA VALLEY

Town of Yucca Valley Vision 2035

“While maintaining our small town atmosphere, the Town of Yucca Valley is a unique, desirable place to live, the economic hub of the Morongo Basin, and a sought after place to visit.

As a destination, visitors are drawn to our desert environment, arts and culture, recreation, history, night skies, active open space, and shopping and hospitality opportunities.

Our range of community services and facilities, efficient infrastructure, safe and established neighborhoods, unique character, and diversity define our community and quality of life.

Our commitment to balanced growth, environmental stewardship, fiscal sustainability, active citizen participation, and property rights are the cornerstones of our community.”

Town of Yucca Valley General Plan 2014



MISSION STATEMENT - Town of Yucca Valley

“The mission of the Town of Yucca Valley is to provide a government that is responsive to the needs and concerns of its diverse citizenry and secures a safe and secure environment while **maintaining the highest quality of life.**”

Moving Forward as a Community

Establish the Town as a welcoming community businesses, residents, and visitors alike

Town of Yucca Valley, 2015 Approved Strategic Plan

TOURISM

The Morongo Basin is famous nationally and internationally for art, culture and most importantly for its amazing natural beauty. Twentynine Palms and Joshua Tree are the main locations for visual and performing arts, with galleries, theaters, music venues and restaurants. With two million tourists visiting Joshua Tree National Park and over 600 Airbnbs in Joshua Tree and Yucca Valley alone, the Town of Yucca Valley has an opportunity with the Hi-Desert Nature Museum to capture more of those visitors.

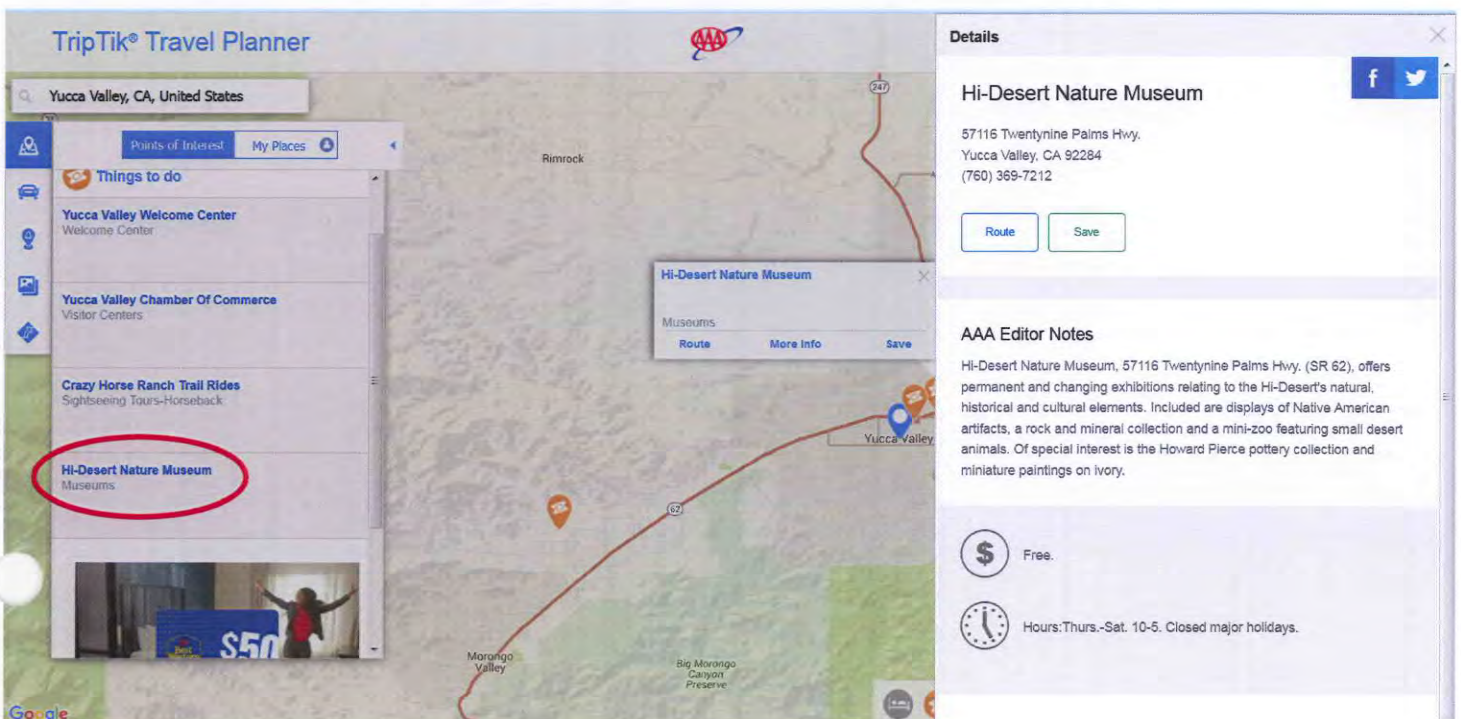
Attracting Tourist to Yucca Valley

“Situated on State Highway 62 where it is intersected by State Highway 247, Yucca Valley is the hub of the Morongo Basin communities and a host of recreational opportunities and tourist attractions. The community is a frequent stop for travelers en route to the Colorado River vacation destinations.” (<http://www.yucca-valley.org/about/index.html>)

The statement above is from the Town of Yucca Valley’s website. The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is mentioned, but further research on the same site does not reveal any other tourist attractions. The Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce lists Joshua Tree National Park, Desert Christ Park, Warrens Well and the Hi-Desert Nature Museum as the available tourist attractions.

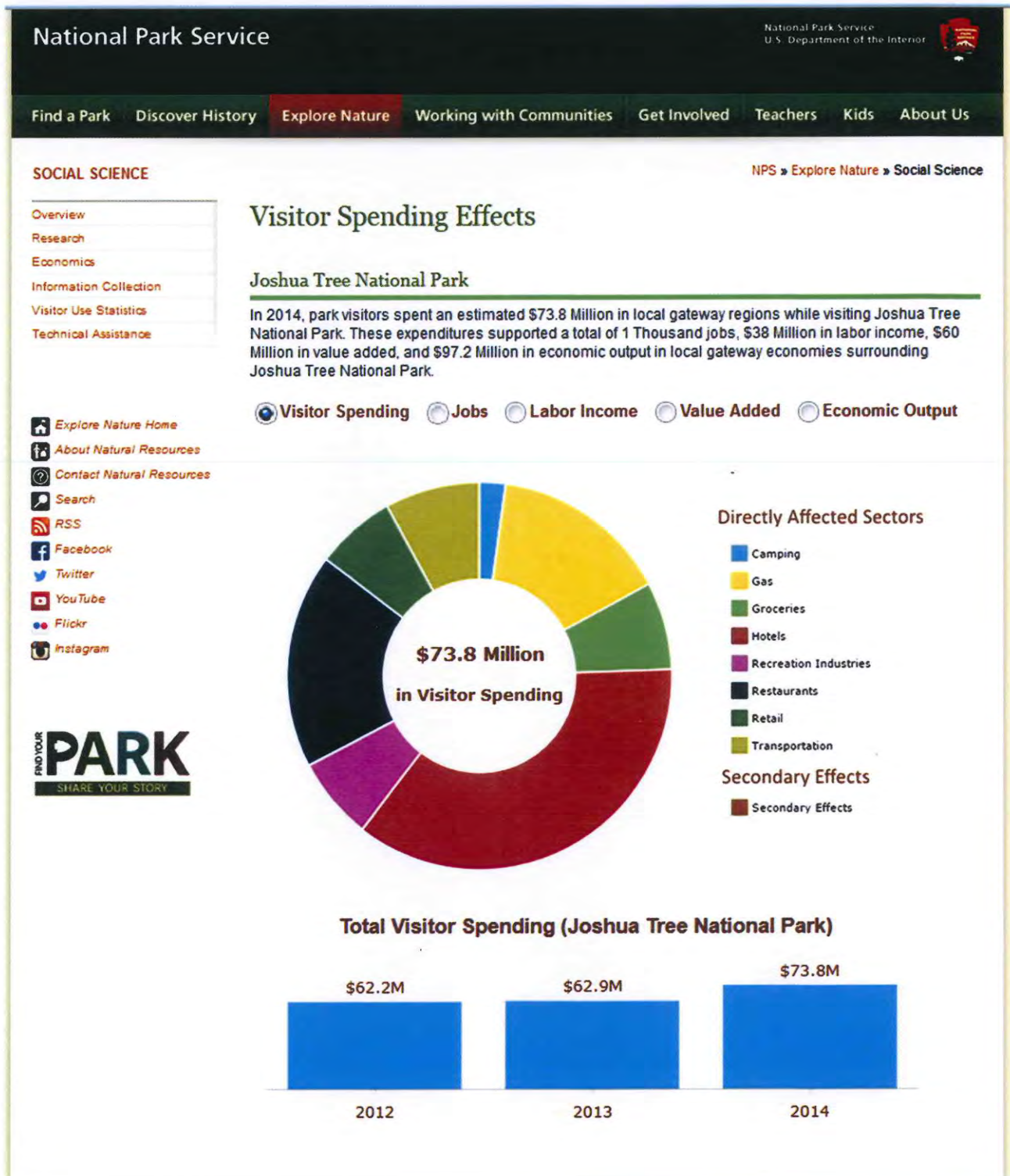
The Basinwide Foundation and the Desert Regional Tourism Agency describe Yucca Valley as follows: “Yucca Valley is considered to be the economic hub of the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities, boasting several major financial institutions, nationally known retailers and restaurants such as Home Depot, Walmart, Applebees and Starbucks in addition to a broad base of locally owned retailers and restaurants.” (<http://joshuatreegatewaycommunities.com>). The unique attractions listed on the website include the Hi-Desert Nature Museum, Desert Christ Park and the Miracle League Field. Visiting the AAA –website shows all the reasons for visiting Yucca Valley (see below).

Since the Hi-Desert Nature Museum is the only tourist attraction in Yucca Valley it would be adventitious to make it a more visible and engaging visitor location.



Joshua Tree National Park is unquestionably the most important and popular tourist attraction with two million national and international visitors in 2015. The graphic below shows the financial impact Joshua Tree National Park has on its gateway communities. The Museum will be a further reason for travelers to stop and spend time in Yucca Valley.

An American Alliance of Museums study has revealed that 78% of all leisure travelers participate in cultural and heritage activities. These travelers - including visitors to museums - spend 63% more on average than other leisure travelers.



Community Visitors

Some 60,000 residents make the Morongo Basin their permanent home as well as about 36,000 military personnel and their families who are a mostly temporary population.

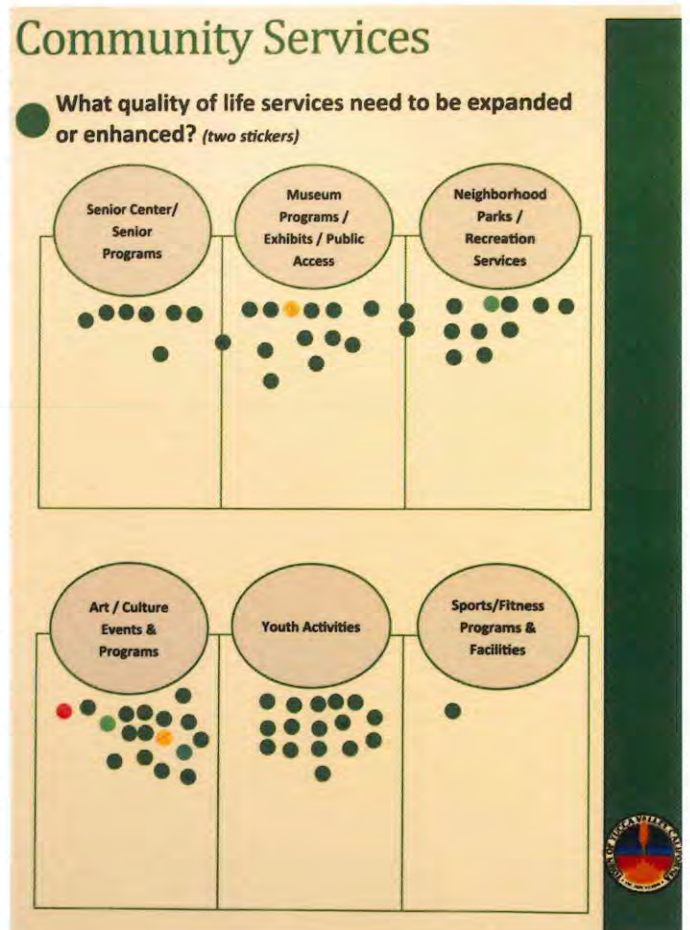
The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is the only Town Program/Facility that is accessible and provides entertainment and education to visitors of all ages, for no admission. The Museum offers frequently changing exhibits, information on local history, natural science education, an interactive Kids Corner, a Mini-Zoo, and a variety of special programs. The Museum provides a space for parents to meet and have activities for children, a place for seniors to enjoy lectures and leisurely strolls through the exhibits, and it is a safe place in which young people can spend time together.

In a recent strategic planning meeting the community and Town Council were given the opportunity to voice an opinion on Town of Yucca Valley quality-of-life services they would like to see increased. The outcome is visible in graphic 1. The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is the only town facility that has offerings in three of the listed categories:

- Museum/Programs,
- Art/Culture Events and
- Youth Activities.

The Town Council recognized the need for the increase in museum services and incorporated some of the community wishes in the 2015 Town of Yucca Valley Strategic Plan.

“In moving forward as a community the desire to maintain quality of life by providing recreational activities for patrons of all ages was given a high priority.”



Graphic 1: Opinion Board from 10/20/2015
Town of Yucca Valley strategic planning meeting.

Museum Accessibility

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum hopes to add a 20-hour part-time Museum Aide position and open the doors an additional day per week. As it stands the Hi-Desert Nature Museum is still operating on a limited schedule of three days per week open to the public: Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

With the Town's goal of being welcoming as well as attracting more of the two million visitors en route to Joshua Tree National Park to the Museum it is vitally important to increase its visibility. One step towards reaching that goal is to establish appropriate signage on Highway 62 and 247.



Exhibit Spaces

Displays and temporary exhibitions, physical or electronic, should be in accordance with the stated mission, policy and purpose of the museum. They should not compromise either the quality or the proper care and conservation of the collections.

ICOM (*International Council of Museums*) Statutes, adopted during the 21st General Conference in Vienna, Austria, 2007

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum has accomplished the goals set towards improving the exhibit spaces set in the last strategic plan. In room 3, the large deer diorama has been removed, the ceiling has been fixed and painted, and the dioramas and exhibit cases were cleaned and interpretive labels were updated.

After assessing the permanent exhibits and the way they are displayed, staff started to rethink the focus as well as the flow within the exhibit spaces. The Museum has defined three focus areas in its mission statement. The main focus is local natural history followed by local history and local art. These priorities are reflected within the collections.

The arrangement of exhibits within the Museum reveals that they are not organized by subject matter. Natural history, art, and local history are intermingled within the same gallery. It is necessary to reorganize the galleries.

Facility and Exhibit Spaces

Room 3 - Natural History Wing

Room 3, the largest gallery space in the Museum will be the Natural History Wing. This will enable the Museum to double its natural history exhibits and interpretation and make the space coherent.

The museum owns several small professionally produced natural science exhibits, subject matters include Tortoises, Desert Volcanoes, Reptiles, Fear of Animals, Rattlesnakes, Scorpions, etc. The museum also possesses framed herbarium specimens, botanical prints, nests and eggs, skulls, pinned insects and much more. As a result these exhibits and collections will be available to the public.

The Museum has succeeded in deaccessioning all of the non-native taxidermy, including marsh and shore birds, European game birds, white-tailed deer, opossum and others. However, over the last ten years the museum has added to its collection of native taxidermy with donations from the Palm Springs Desert Museum and the Agua Caliente Museum. These accessions include a mountain lion, a young coyote and several native songbirds. The Museum also has the opportunity to acquire a bighorn sheep mount. After accessing the mounts it became clear that the existing diorama cases will not offer sufficient space or security for the collection. An updated diorama is needed. Museum staff has contacted several exhibit builders and received estimates in the \$300,000s; alternative funding might need to be found.

Room 2 - Local History Wing

Room 2 will become the local history wing. Showing and interpreting the local history, from its original native inhabitants through settlers, homesteaders, miners and current occupants. Currently room 2 is occupied by the gem & mineral exhibit and some paleontological exhibits.

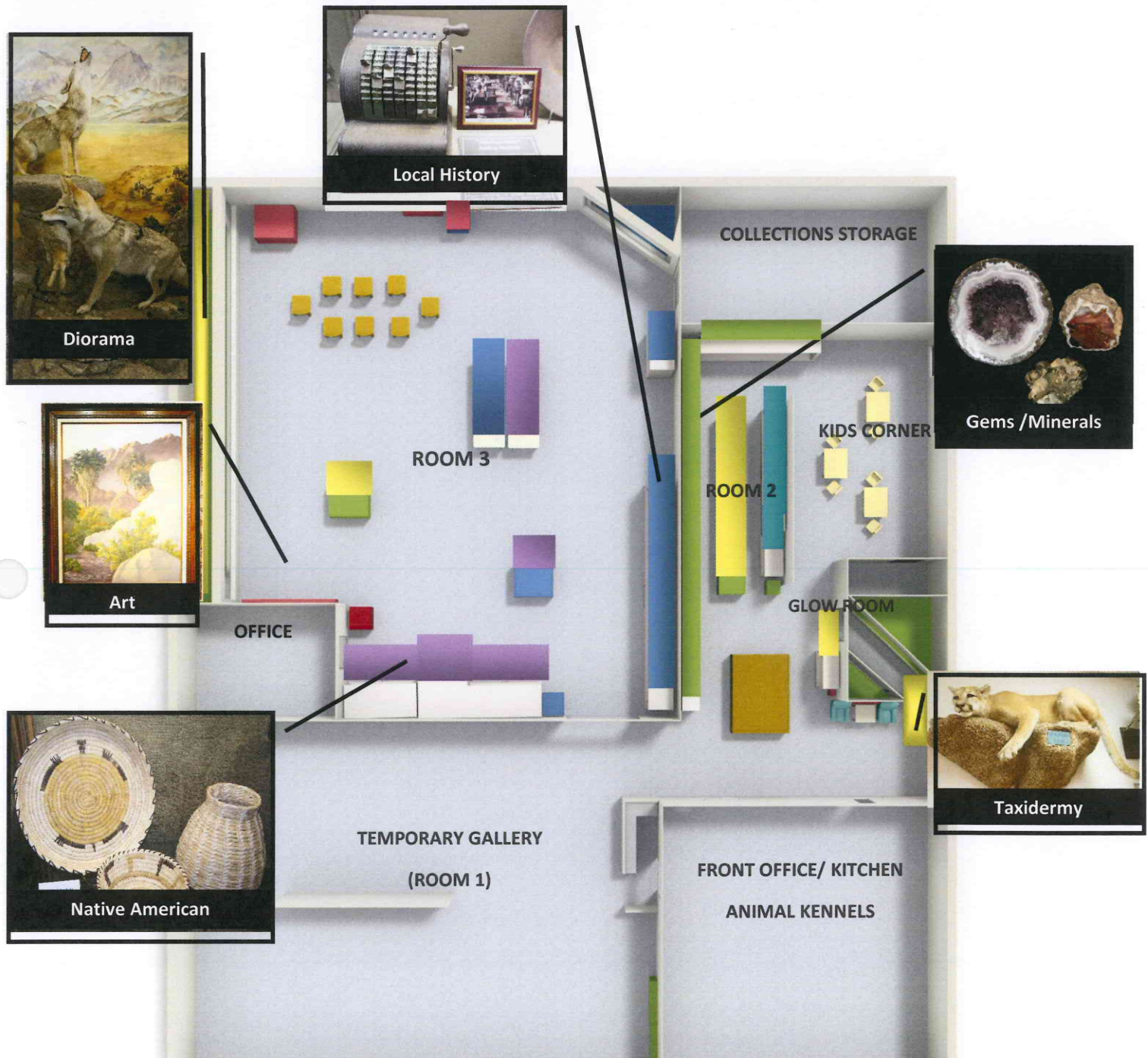
Temporary Exhibit Gallery

The temporary exhibit space will get a facelift with the removal of the outdated blue paneled walls and installation of carpeted boards on all the walls for a more uniform and professional look. Temporary exhibits displayed in this gallery will follow a schedule laid out on page 15.



Hi-Desert Nature Museum

CURRENT LAYOUT

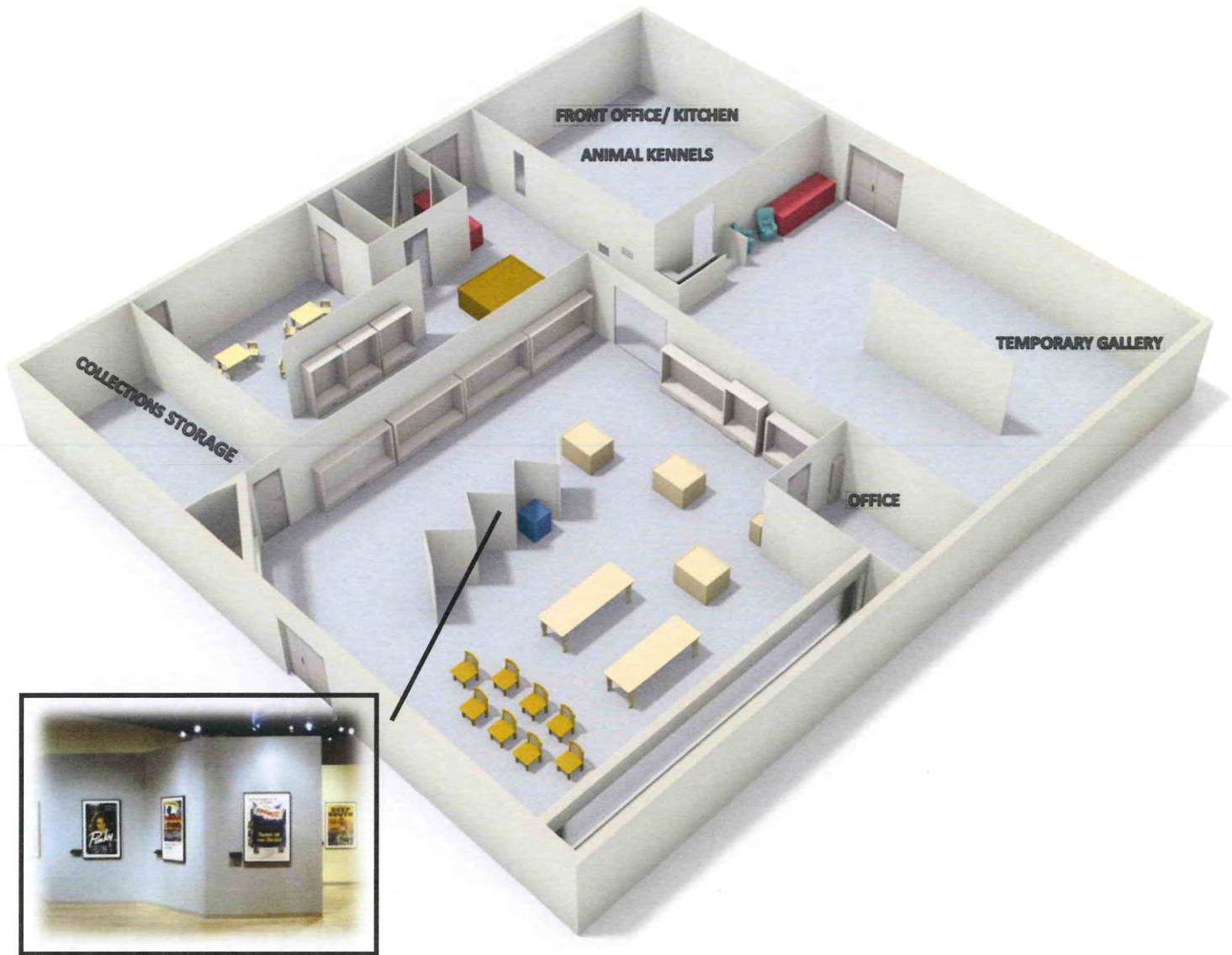


The above is a representation of the museum's current exhibit layout. The current layout lacks focus, as exhibits of all subject matters are interspersed throughout every room of the museum.

- Geology Collections
- Local History Collections
- Art Collections
- Native American Collections
- Taxidermy
- Paleontology Collections

Hi-Desert Nature Museum

LAYOUT: NATURAL HISTORY WING (ROOM 3) Phase 1



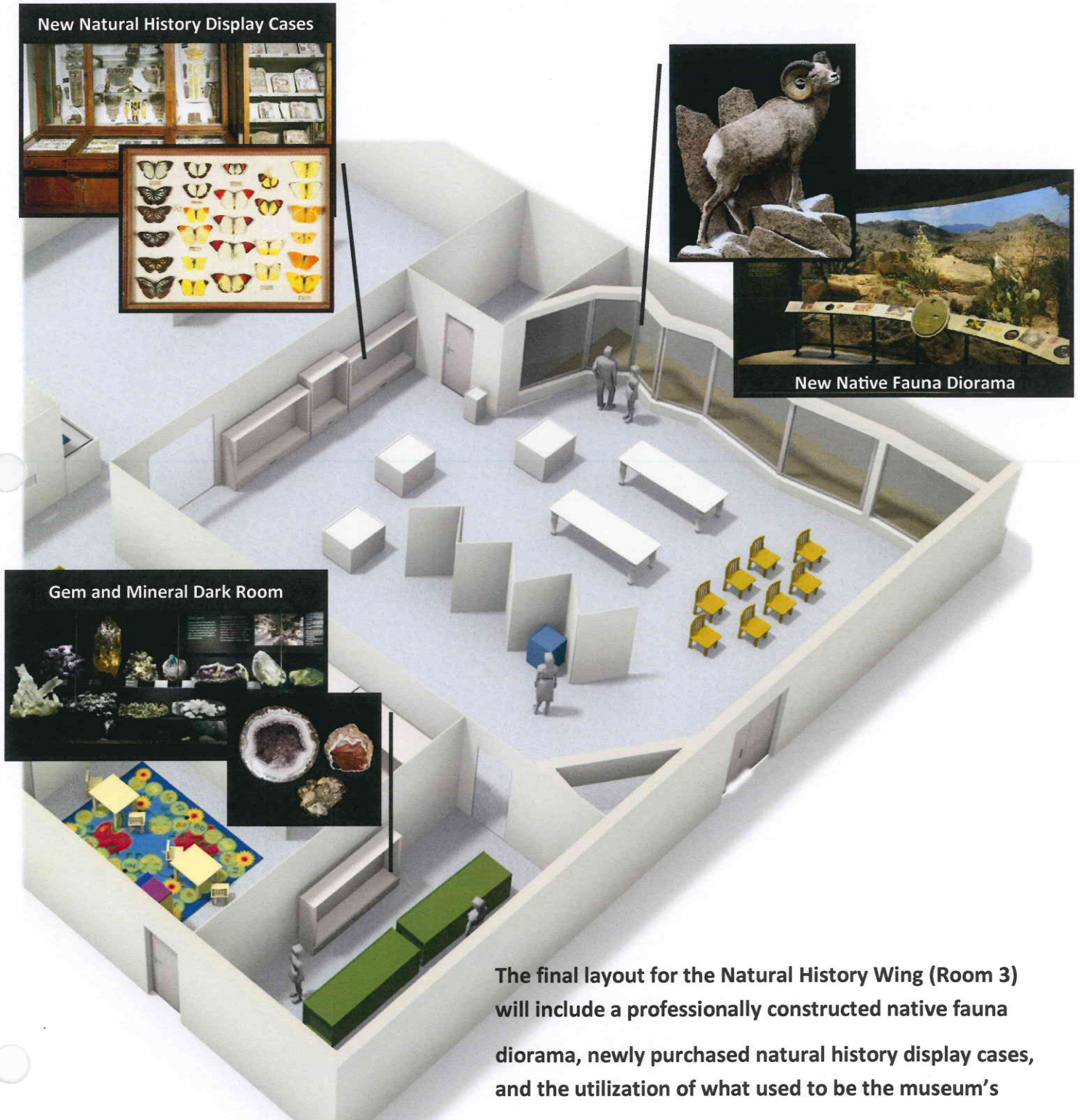
Hi-Desert Nature Museum

LAYOUT: LOCAL HISTORY WING (ROOM 2) Phase 1



Hi-Desert Nature Museum

FINAL LAYOUT: NATURAL HISTORY WING (ROOM 3)



The final layout for the Natural History Wing (Room 3) will include a professionally constructed native fauna diorama, newly purchased natural history display cases, and the utilization of what used to be the museum's collections storage as a gem and mineral dark room.

Hi-Desert Nature Museum

FINAL LAYOUT: LOCAL HISTORY WING (ROOM 2)



The final layout for the Local History Wing (Room 2) will include newly purchased artifact display cases, the incorporation of an interactive “Pioneer Wall”, and the utilization of what used to be the museum’s glow room as a gift shop.

Temporary Exhibits

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum has always provided excellent temporary exhibits. The museum developed a general exhibit schedule during the last strategic planning period that reduces the changing exhibits from six per year to four per year.

January-February:	short period rental exhibit
March - May:	local art exhibits
June - September :	interactive youth rental exhibit
October - December:	short period rental exhibit

The Museum is a member of several exhibit provider networks and staff has been very resourceful in finding affordable rental exhibits. However the rental fees for exhibits have been rising and so have the prices for shipping. The Museum has offered interactive youth exhibits for the last two years. Local families have been taking advantage of free access to those first rate interactive and educational exhibits, and the feedback has been positive throughout.



As a professional standard, museums strive to secure exhibits at least two years ahead. Museum staff has done an exceptional job in finding and securing temporary exhibits that are of local interest and comply with the museum's mission statement. This common practice has great benefits for long term scheduling in the museum, but it is difficult to budget. The timeframe from the first down payment to the final shipping payment can span more than two fiscal years.



Future Interactive Youth Exhibits

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum has booked the Summer Exhibits through 2017 and has started looking at 2018 bookings.

This summer's (2016) exhibit is "Framed: Step into Art". The exhibit is being produced by the Minnesota Children's Museum.

Because this exhibit was about to retire and the rental price was dropped to \$5,000, down from \$45,000 with shipping estimate at \$6,000 (see Appendix III).

Since we booked the exhibit the Minnesota Children's Museum decided to travel it again for the original price of \$45,000.

"Experience art like never before in *Framed: Step into Art*™. This engaging exhibit transports visitors to a world where paintings leap off the canvas and invite children inside the art experience. As visitors play and move through the exhibit, they are challenged to ride a giant chicken, set up camp in the Canadian Rockies, and prepare dinner for a group of hungry farmers."



For the summer 2017 the Museum secured the exhibit "Conservation Quest" produced by the Stepping Stones Museum for Children in Norwalk, CT.

This exhibit is moderately priced for an interactive youth exhibit. The negotiated discounted rental fee is \$18,000 with shipping estimated

at \$5,500. (see Appendix III)

Learn about energy—what it is, where it comes from, how we use it and why it's important to use it wisely. *Conservation Quest* delivers important energy conservation messages, inspiring visitors to make thoughtful choices about energy use to help protect the planet and promote healthy living.



Educational Programs

Museums provide opportunities for the appreciation, understanding and promotion of the natural and cultural heritage

Principle: museums have an important duty to develop their educational role and attract wider audiences from the community, locality, or group they serve. Interaction with the constituent community and promotion of their heritage is an integral part of the educational role of the museum. *(Code of Ethics, International Council of Museums, 2004)*

The Hi-Desert Nature Museum has always provided excellent educational programs to the community, but with current staffing educational programs will remain limited.

Previously offered programs, such as monthly “Kid EdVentures” and seasonal craft programs, have been suspended.. Unfortunately off-site education programs also will have to remain suspended as well until staffing levels increase. With careful scheduling the museum can maintain its mandate to be available for local school groups that visit the museum for educational programs. These programs are scheduled on days the museum is closed to the public.

In 2015, the Museum, together with the Recreation Department, offered a summer camp for children in conjunction with the youth exhibit on display. The summer camp was very well received by the children and the parents. With funding in place to secure interactive youth exhibits we are planning to continue to offer a summer camp.



Museum Education
1920's



1960's



Hi-Desert Nature Museum Education






2015

Collections

Museums that maintain collections hold them in trust for the benefit of society and its development

Principle: museums have the duty to acquire, preserve and promote their collections as a contribution to safeguarding the natural, cultural and scientific heritage. Their collections are a significant public inheritance, have a special position in law and are protected by international legislation. Inherent in this public trust is the notion of stewardship that includes rightful ownership, permanence, documentation, accessibility and responsible disposal.

(Code of Ethics, International Council of Museums, 2004)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Object ID #	Old ID #	Object Name/ Description	Image	Found In Location	Basic Condition	Cataloged?	Inventoried by	Date Inventoried	Notes	Quantity
1988.003.0010	MA 4670 a	basket woven tray		R3 E5	Good	Y	JC, VC	11/5/2014		
1988.003.0001	MA 4562	basket woven bowl		R3 E5	Good	Y	JC, VC	11/5/2014		
1988.003.0006	MA 4567	basket woven tray w/ red/orange detail		R3 E5	Good	Y	JC, VC	11/5/2014		
		basketed woven tray w/colorful filigree on base		R3 E5	Good	Y	JC, VC	11/5/2014		
		basket woven tray		R3 E5	Good	Y	JC, VC	11/5/2014		



Object

Inventory Spread Sheet in Excel

Since the last strategic plan, museum staff has managed to restore several functions essential for safeguarding both the intellectual and physical components of the museum's collections. In addition to enacting several key measures that help to physically stabilize the museum's collections, like establishing regular maintenance and monitoring systems for galleries, museum staff also set out to conduct a wall-to-wall inventory of the museum's permanent collections. The undertaking only took two years, and the inventory was completed in the spring of 2016. All of the key performance indicators detailed in the last strategic plan had been completed well within the amount of time specified.

The last fully executed inventory of the museum's permanent collections was completed in 1993. In the early 2000s, the museum purchased a computerized cataloging program, Past Perfect. Past Perfect works with a trinomial numbering system for objects, which was adopted by the museum. In order to fully implement the program, staff has to manually input information from the museum's previous paper based system and re-number every object while creating accession and object records in the program. Several attempts to catalog the museum's collections had been made over the years, by different museum employees and volunteers utilizing a variety of strategies. Consequently there was much left in question due to inconsistencies made during those attempts. The most current inventory's purpose was not only to identify, locate and assess the condition of what the museum currently claims as part of its permanent collection (which includes permanent and long-term loans), but also to reveal how best to approach the museum's next step in reconciling all of the museum's collections record systems. The inventory identified just over 2,500 permanent collections objects, and only approximately one third of these objects have been cataloged in Past Perfect.

In moving forward, museum staff will begin to reconcile data gathered during the inventory with Past Perfect, and hard-copy records. Some of the intricate tasks will include creating accession/loan and object records in Past Perfect containing baseline information (i.e., number, donor, condition, description, and a picture) for the remaining acquisitions that have yet to be cataloged, and updating the existing records with current location following and condition statuses. This will make each object “searchable.”

Basic cataloging will be followed by research for more prevalent information like provenance and historical or scientific significance of each object and integrate the findings in each object’s record. These tasks are usually very time consuming. However, the ultimate outcome will then be a cohesive and comprehensive record system. In effect this will open up opportunities for the museum to utilize its collections more effectively.

NATURE MUSEUM
HI-DESERT PARK
 Phone 365-2102
 55680 ONAGA (AT HOP) YUCCA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIMEN

Description 108 SEA SHELLS - FROM THE GULF OF CALIFORNIA & THE PACIFIC COAST.

Estimated Value \$ 100.00 - 200.00

Specimen Gift to Museum Signature CHARLES POWELL Date 4-16-70

Specimen Placed on Loan Signature _____ Date _____

Address 2505 E. SANTA FE, FULLERTON, CALIF.

Specimen No. PR 1010-1117 Received by EVELYN G. CONKLIN

Specimen Returned _____ Date _____

MAINTAINED BY THE YUCCA VALLEY PARK & RECREATION DISTRICT

14 - 10025 - 792

Original Donation Document

The screenshot shows the 'Photos Catalog' window in the Past Perfect software. The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Uninstall), a toolbar with various actions like Add, Browse, Edit, Spell, End, Query, Delete, Print, Media, and Exit. A sidebar on the left contains navigation options like Screen View, Custom, Other Views, Appraisal, Condition, Lexicon, Location, Notes & Legal, People - Subjects Classification, Search Terms, Relations, Source, Lists, and Virtual Exhibit. The main area displays a detailed record for a photograph with the following fields:

- Collection:** Hanley Family Collection
- Date:** 1945
- Object ID:** 2003.1.8
- Year Range:** 1945 thru 1945
- Object Name:** Print, Photographic
- Catalog Date:** 01/15/2004
- Cataloged by:** Meyers, Pamela
- Status Date:** 01/15/2004
- Status by:** Meyers, Pamela
- Status:** OK
- Accession#:** 2003.1 Hanley, Kristopher K.
- Home Location:** PastPerfect Museum Archives.Cabinet 2.Photo Storage Box 1

The 'Photos' section provides a description: 'Gunner at battle station on the 1601.' and lists technical details: 'PC-1601 (USS Fierce)', 'PC-1568 class Submarine Chaser (ex Adroit class Minesweeper)', 'Displacement: 450 tons', and 'Length: 1738"'. The 'Provenance' section notes: 'The photographer of these WWII Pacific Theater photographs is Claire Norton Hanley. Claire Hanley was a young naval officer during WWII. He served on the ship in the above photograph as Lieut. (jg) in the Pacific Theater. His ship participated in major naval operations at the end of WWII including the invasion of Iwo Jima.' Other fields include 'Title: Gunner', 'Photographer: Hanley, Clair N.', 'Event: WWII', 'Medium: Slide', 'Frame: C2004', and 'Neg Location: Copy Negative Storage Box 2'. A small thumbnail image of the photograph is visible in the top right corner.

Sample of Completed Catalogue Sheet in Past Perfect



Appendix I

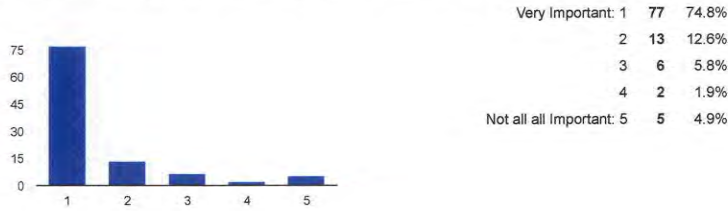
Museum Survey

103 responses

[View all responses](#) [Publish analytics](#)

Summary

On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Important," how important is Natural Science/Desert Ecology education to you?



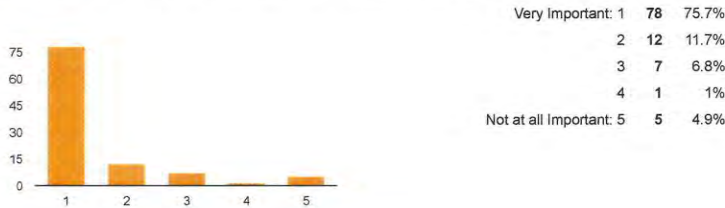
In your opinion, is our public school system providing adequate Natural Science/Desert Ecology education?



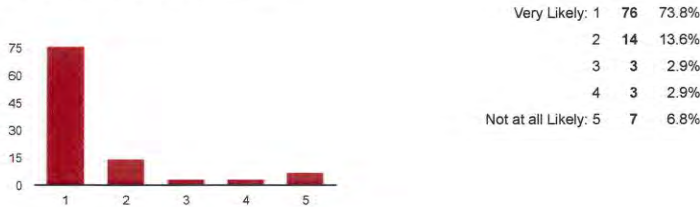
In your opinion, is it the Hi-Desert Nature Museum's responsibility to provide supplemental Natural Science/Desert Ecology education for the local community?



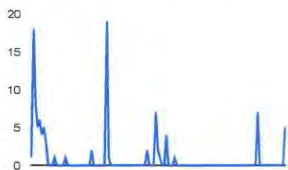
On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Important," how important do you think it is for the Hi-Desert Nature Museum to have exhibits that feature Natural Science/Desert Ecology related topics?



On a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 being "Very Likely," how likely are you to make repeat visits to the Hi-Desert Nature Museum if these type of exhibits were provided?



Number of daily responses





Appendix II
Work Plan
2016-18

Hi-Desert Nature Museum Work Plan 2016-2018

“A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.”

ICOM (*International Council of Museums*) Statutes, adopted during the 21st General Conference in Vienna, Austria, 2007



The Morongo Basin is famous nationally and internationally for art, culture and most importantly for its amazing natural beauty. Twentynine Palms and Joshua Tree are the main locations for visual and performing arts with galleries, theaters and music venues. The Town of Yucca Valley’s Hi-Desert Nature Museum is the only year around venue for natural history education as well as the preservation and interpretation of the Basin’s cultural heritage. With almost two million tourists visiting Joshua Tree National Park (nps.gov/Stats) and a growing interest in natural science and environmental education, the Hi-Desert Nature Museum recognizes the need for an increased focus on natural history exhibits and interpretation.

Focus 1 - Natural History Wing (Room 3)

- Pertinent to the Mojave Desert
- Informative for tourists
- Educational and relevant for frequent visitors

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Review and evaluate natural history displays, especially gem and minerals for the possibility of condensation
- Move display cases in room 2 and 3 to separate natural and cultural history exhibits
- Refinish existing exhibit cases
- Procure temporary walls for in-house natural history exhibits
- Procure museum quality display cabinets for entomology (insects), botany (plants) and ornithology (birds)

LONGTERM ACTIONS:

- Install museum quality glass diorama to display and interpret the museum's extensive collection of native fauna taxidermy

Focus 2 - Cultural History Exhibits (Room 2):

- Relate to the Community's past and future
- Be informative for tourists

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Review existing display cases and displays and consider which stories to tell (mining, settlers, industry etc)
- Move display cases in room 2 and 3 to separate natural and cultural history exhibits
- Rotate exhibits and interpretation in the Native American display

Focus 3 - Temporary Exhibit Gallery:

New (unrepeated), educational, seasonal, and interactive exhibits appropriate for all audiences and in agreement with the museum's mission.

Temporary exhibits are aimed at local audiences, since they visit the museum throughout the year and appreciate a frequently changing gallery. The museum would like to implement a yearly schedule of exhibits:

January - February:	Science or Culture
March - May:	Art (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and CMC/YVHS Art Show)
June - September:	Interactive, educational and aimed towards children with associated programming
October - December:	Science or Culture

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS:

- Research high quality rental exhibits from reputable museums and/or lenders that align with the HDNM's mission
- Follow proper museum procedure and schedule exhibits two years out
- Review rental agreements and secure exhibits, especially the larger summer exhibits through 2018



Appendix III
Rental Exhibits
Brochures

WHAT OTHERS SAY

"It was an exciting way to introduce artists and different art styles to tour groups ranging from grades Pre-K to 5. The fact that Framed was bilingual was a huge plus for us. Although many of our visitors' children speak English and Spanish, a lot of their parents only speak Spanish, so it helped families to enjoy the exhibit as a unit."
— Freda Turner, Durham Children's Museum

"My family loved this exhibit at Kidzu Children's Museum. We enjoyed exploring Clementine Hunter's Big Chicken painting in a new way and took home several cute photos of them riding the chicken from within the art work – something they couldn't do with their own pet chicks! After visiting, we downloaded an image of the Mona Lisa and made our own Monas at home. Playing with art at Kidzu museums more approachable and fun for the kids."
— Visitor in Chapel Hill, NC



BOOST ATTENDANCE • SPARK CURIOSITY • ACTIVATE LEARNING

CONNECT YOUR VISITORS TO THE WORLD OF ART

Hosts of Framed benefit from:

- Top-notch educational, marketing and installation materials
- Responsive support from experienced staff
- Collapsible and easy to store wheeled carts

Special features:

- Interactive settings in which visitors literally step into well-known paintings and make a personal connection to art
- Opportunities to utilize visual thinking strategies, created by the organization Visual Understanding in Education which supports National Standards for Art Education

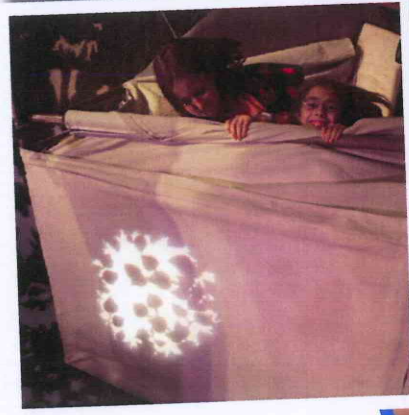


EXHIBIT DETAILS

Content focus

Interactive art appreciation

Size

1,500 sq. ft.

Price

\$5,000 special pricing

Target audience

Children ages five to 12, families and school groups

Features

- Comprehensive marketing toolkit
- Educational materials
- Installation manual
- Exhibit props and costumes

Availability

Visit MCM.org/availability for downloadable information.

Reserve your spot today!
Contact: Amber Stevenson, Traveling Exhibits Manager
TravelingExhibits@MCM.org
651-225-6053

Minnesota
Children's
Museum
Smart Play
MCM.org



FRAMED: STEP INTO ART™

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE WORLD OF FAMOUS PAINTINGS

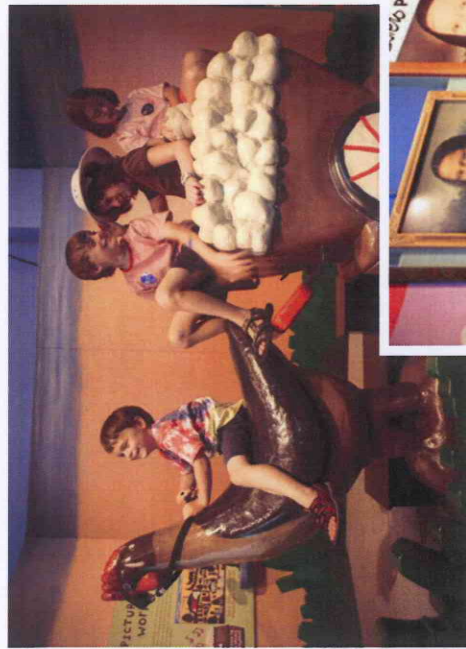
Experience art like never before in *Framed: Step into Art*™. This engaging exhibit transports visitors to a world where paintings leap off the canvas and children are invited inside the art experience.

PLAY WITH AND THINK ABOUT ART

As visitors play and move, they are challenged to ride a giant chicken, set up camp in the Canadian Rockies, and prepare dinner for a group of hungry farmers.

THINK AND TALK ABOUT ART

The exhibit environments are accompanied by information about each artist, and provide conversational prompts that employ visual thinking strategies. *Framed: Step into Art* provides opportunities for children and adults to spend time with five paintings - from iconic to contemporary - and learn to appreciate their own, as well as others' opinions of individual art.



Pick cotton and go for a ride
Big Chicken
by Clementine Hunter



Set the table and enjoy a meal with the farmers after taking care of the farm animals
Dinner for Threshers by Grant Wood



Create your own mural



Help Diego Rivera with his Corn Festival fresco
The Corn Festival by Diego Rivera



Set up camp, cook a meal over campfire and explore shadows
Camp at Lake O'Hara by John Singer Sargent



See yourself as Mona Lisa
Many Monas
by various artists



Conservation Quest

Traveling Exhibit

How much electricity does your family use each day?
Stack up all the items you use to find out.

The graphics printed
on our board
is made from recycled
paper and is recyclable.

Play again.

Energy • Conservation • Environmental Health Go Green!

Loaded with hands-on interactives, *Conservation Quest*SM delivers important conservation messages, inspiring visitors to make thoughtful choices about energy use. Learn about energy – what it is, where it comes from, how we use it and why it's so important to use it wisely. See how simple actions can make big differences for families, communities and the planet.

- Find ways to save with light bulbs, electricity and recycling
- Explore solar, wind and hydropower
- Connect circuits to power up lights, alarms and fans
- See how much electricity you use compared to others
- Check out the latest energy-saving inventions and learn about the future of energy

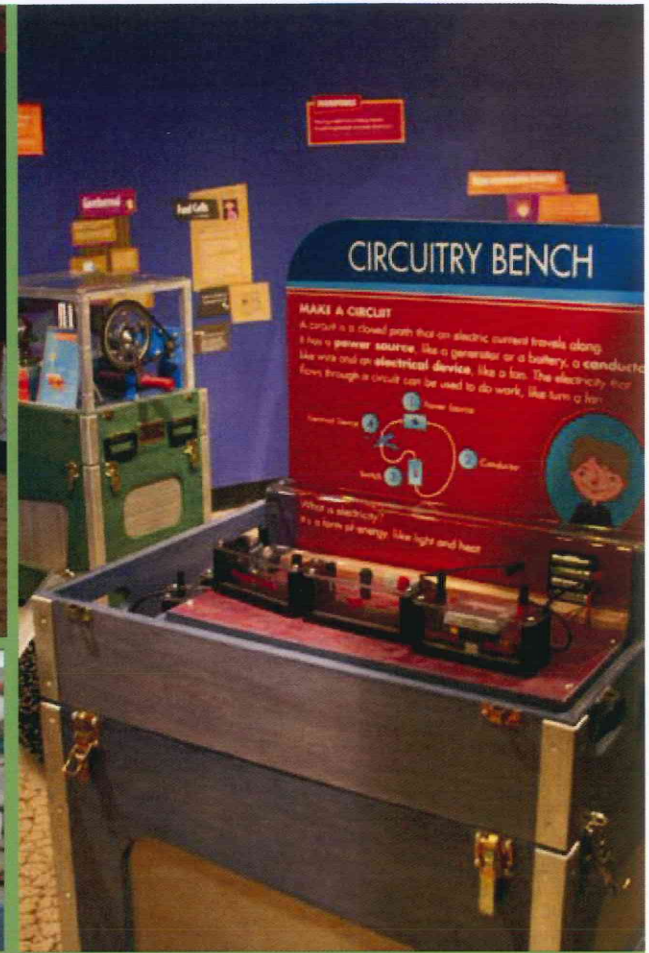


Exhibit produced using
eco-friendly materials.

- Exhibit Size:** 1,500–2,000 sq. ft.
4,500–6,000 sq. ft. version available
- Rental Fee:** \$25,000 for 3 months (plus inbound shipping)
- Support:**
- Detailed Site Support and Installation Manuals
 - Education and Programming Guides
 - Marketing Samples and Files
 - On-call Technical Support and Troubleshooting
 - On-site Installation Assistance Available



Stepping Stones Museum for Children



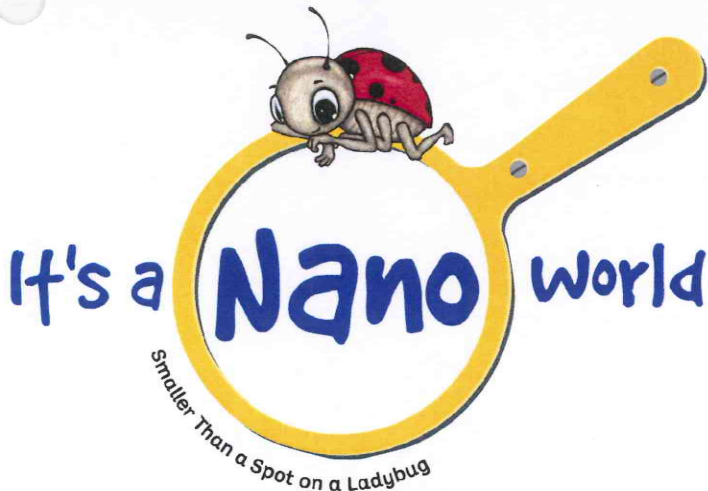
For more information, contact:

Sheri Cifaldi-Morrill, Director of Exhibit Design and Delivery
 sheri@steppingstonesmuseum.org
 203 899 0606, ext. 234

Stepping Stones Museum for Children's traveling exhibits are unlike anything... anywhere.

Created to inspire lifelong learning through inquiry and play, the exhibits provide an interactive educational experience for visitors of all ages. Our commitment to quality means that we give considerable thought and care to every detail of exhibit planning and design. With invaluable input from children, parents, educators, community partners, content experts, designers and fabricators—the result is a safe, durable and unique exhibit experience. While your visitors are engaged in the exhibits, your staff will be thrilled with our comprehensive customer service and preventative maintenance.

Exhibition for Rent



Did you know...**amazing things** happen at the **nanoscale**?

- **Zoom** into **your** own **skin** and **hair**!
- **Measure** your height in **nanometers**!
- **Separate** cells in giant **Cell Sorters**!
- **Play** giant **DNA**, dust and **germ pinball**!
- **Jump** into a Giant **Blood Drop** tent and **find** the white blood **cells**!

Designed for ages 5-8 and families.

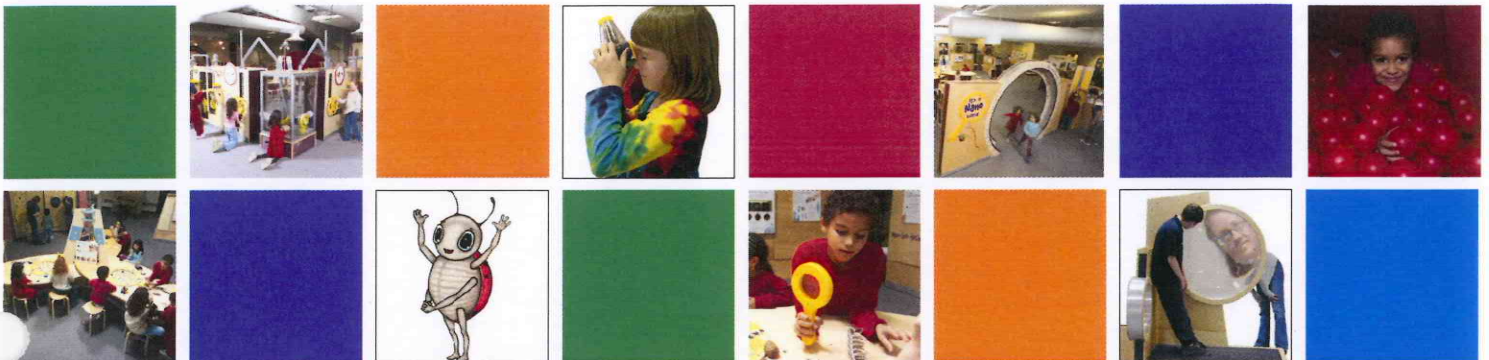
Developed by: **Sciencenter**

Partner:
NanoBioTechnology Center, Cornell University

Funded by: NSF



Rental Fee: \$45,000 for 3 ½ months
Size: 3,000 sq. ft.
Shipping: fits in 2 semi-trailers
renter pays inbound shipping



It's a Nano World!



Gateway

Enter into the nano world through this large archway. This area introduces the term *nanobiotechnology* and the ladybug-with-a-magnifying-glass icon that appears throughout the exhibition.



Look Closer! Guess What I Am

View highly magnified photographs of familiar objects and uncover photos with decreasing levels of magnification until an easily recognizable item is revealed.



Powers of Ten film

Watch a modified version of the *Powers of Ten* film by Ray and Charles Eames. This mesmerizing journey takes viewers from a view of Earth from outer space all the way down into a human hand, and then down to the molecular level.



How Many Nanometers Tall are You?

Measure your height using the height slider. Are you over 1,000,000,000 nanometers tall (40")?



Cell Sorters

Stick your hand into a "glove box" and use special tools to separate out different "cells" based on their physical properties. Sort the balls that look identical but have different invisible properties. Do they glow under ultraviolet "black" light? Do they stick to magnets?



Giant Magnifying Glass

Visitors look through either of two giant magnifying lenses to see each other and objects across the room in more detail.



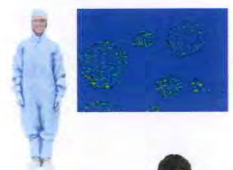
Magnification Station

Use magnifying glasses of varying strengths to look at shells, cloth, rocks, and more.



Scope on a Rope

Discover amazing details of your own skin, hair, clothing, and more with these hand-held video microscopes. One microscope magnifies at 30x, the other at 200x. You'll be surprised at what you see!



Cells in Motion and Tiny Tools videos

This theater environment places you in the midst of a world of living, moving cells and then shows how scientists study them. *Cells in Motion* and *Tiny Tools* videos play in a loop.



What's My Job?

Test and reinforce your knowledge of vocabulary and functions of various small things including germs, DNA, and different types of cells.



How Big Am I?

Compare the size of blood cells, a girl, a shoe, DNA, and an elephant in this matching game.



Adventures in Tiny Things

Some tiny things such as germs, dust, and pollen can have a big effect on your body. Play three different pinball-style games:

- **Dust Tippy Table**
- **Pollen Pinball**
- **Germ Launcher**



Giant Blood Drop

Jump into a domed tent full of thousands of red plastic balls. The tent represents a drop of blood and each ball represents a red blood cell. Find the one or two fluffy "white blood cells."



Scale Gallery

Spin parts of the collage to see and learn about microscopic entities at 10,000x life size: red blood cells, white blood cells, nerve cells, skin cells, bacteria, viruses, DNA and computer chips.

Exhibition for Rent



when the EARTH SHAKES



Did you know...*earthquakes* occur **every day**?
Explore the *science* of
Earthquakes! • **Tsunamis!** • **Engineering!**

- **Jump** on the **Quake Karaoke** platform!
- **Match** an earthquake **seismogram**!
- **Launch** waves through the **16-ft. long Tsunami Tank!**
 - **Replay** the **impact** in slo-mo!
 - **Engineer** your **designs**!
- **Complete** a tectonic **puzzle** before the pieces fall!
 - **Spin** through geologic time!
- **Build** and test your structures on the **Shake Table!**
 - **Find out** how scientists make our world **safer**
...**When the Earth Shakes!**

Rental Fee: \$17,500 for 3 ½ months
Size: 1,200-1,400 sq. ft.
Shipping: fits in half a semi-trailer
renter pays inbound shipping

Developed & toured by: **Sciencenter**
Designed for a family audience.
Partner: Cornell University
Funded by: NSF/NEES (Network for
Earthquake Engineering Simulation)



When the Earth Shakes

The central exhibit cluster sets the stage for a “Quake Zone”!
Interactive components include freestanding **Shake Table** and 16-ft. long **Tsunami Tank**!



Quake Karaoke

JUMP! Match the motions of historic quakes. Watch your own seismogram in real time as you jump to replicate the original seismogram. How did you score? Refine your jumps and improve your seismogram!



16 ft Tsunami Tank

Build a structure, then make waves crash on a “beach” in this *Tsunami Tank*! Did your structure hold up? Spin the dial! Replay the impact in slo-mo; then improve your design. Can it withstand more powerful waves? What happens when you add a seawall?



Puzzled Earth

Assemble Earth according to today's plate tectonic boundaries! Start the timer, then put the puzzle pieces in place on the big panel. Hurry! You have 2 minutes before the pieces fall!



Shake Table

Be an engineer! Design and build model structures with blocks and reinforcing rods. Turn dials to test your results against earthquake forces. Did your structure stand up? How can you make it safer?



Plates in Motion

Spin the dial! Tectonic plates break up and reassemble as you control Earth's plate movement! Begin 600 million years ago. Then spin to the present for today's tectonic plate arrangement. Spin 200 million years into the future and back again! Can you recognize continents 200 million years into the future?



Earthquake Theater

Watch videos of scientists and engineers working to make our world safer during quakes! See footage of real quakes; find out what causes them. Discover how engineers used amazing tools and technology to test and improve building techniques and materials. They shook full-size bridges and bent 16-meter (50') pipe sections! (*Benches included.*)



Seismic Monitor

This real-time display shows hundreds of earthquakes occurring over the past two weeks. Look for larger-magnitude quakes with bigger circles. Do quakes cluster around tectonic plate boundaries?



NEEShub

Touch the screen to learn about NEES, the national Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation—14 university research facilities where scientists tested buildings and structures using giant shake tables, centrifuges, a tsunami wave basin and other large-scale equipment. See different experiments from each site!



Appendix IV

Yucca Valley

Tourist Information



Town of Yucca Valley

"Discover Yucca Valley, Come for a Day, Stay for a Lifetime."

Click Here

for more info

With a hometown atmosphere and an ideal location in Southern California's high desert about 25 miles northeast of Palm Springs, Yucca Valley residents enjoy a climate and quality of life that is nearly impossible to match. Enjoying sunshine and clear skies more than 320 days a year, locals and visitors find an ideal environment to enjoy the open spaces, starry nights and many outdoor recreation opportunities.

The Town of Yucca Valley was incorporated Nov. 27, 1991, and has a council-manager form of government. The five members of the Town Council are elected at-large and appoint a mayor. Town Hall is located in the heart of Yucca Valley and is part of the Community Center Complex, which also features a beautiful park, sports fields, rose garden, library and the popular Hi-Desert Nature Museum.

Yucca Valley is considered to be the economic hub of the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities, boasting several major financial institutions, nationally known retailers and restaurants such as Home Depot, Walmart, Applebees and Starbucks in addition to a broad base of locally owned retailers and restaurants.

Two state highways intersect in the center of Yucca Valley, allowing for options to move goods in and out of our area. We also have the shortest and most scenic route to Las Vegas.

Joshua Tree National Park, which attracts about 1.5 million visitors a year, is on Yucca Valley's southern border. The incredible night sky, unique natural surroundings and delightful rural nature of the town have made Yucca Valley a favorite destination of equestrians, stargazers, photographers and nature enthusiasts. The abundant flora and fauna complement an active lifestyle in a small-town setting.

Conveniently located within a short drive of many of Southern California's resort destinations, Yucca Valley residents have ready access to Palm Springs, the Colorado River recreation areas, the Big Bear mountain resorts and Joshua Tree National Park. The world's largest Marine Corps base is just 25 miles away in neighboring Twentynine Palms.

The Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce adopted the slogan "Discover Yucca Valley, Come for a Day, Stay for a Lifetime."

Unique Attractions



Desert Christ Park



Hi-Desert Nature Museum



Miracle League Field





Hi-Desert Nature Museum

57116 29 Palms Hwy.
 PO Box 1537
 Yucca Valley, CA 92286
 760-369-7212 Fax 760-369-1605
<http://www.hidesertnaturemuseum.org/>
museum@yucca-valley.org



The Hi-Desert Nature Museum is a wonderful place for the whole family. It features collections and exhibits related to our unique natural and historical elements. Both children and adults benefit from the walks through history to learn about people and events that have shaped our area.

Temporary exhibits showcase various artists and experts, and there are always local animals to visit in the mini-zoo. Children are invited to participate in ongoing hands-on activities, and to attend occasional classes in desert awareness. Located in the Yucca Valley Community Center complex, the dynamic Hi-Desert Museum is someplace you'll want to return to many times. It is open at no charge to the public Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.



Family fun and education is the focus of this interactive museum



Located in the heart of Mid-Town Yucca Valley, the museum is located in the center of the Yucca Valley Community Center Park

