

MINUTES

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2021

Present: Patty Santiago; Karen Howsam; Christine Holland; Jeff Vitucci; Teda Pilcher; SaraJum Quazi; Laura DePaoli; Irene Stone; Denise Klassen; and Gail Stichler.

Museum Education Department: Patsy Hicks and Rachel Heidenry.

President Patty Santiago called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes of the November 10, 2021 meeting were approved.

BOARD REPORTS

PRESIDENT – PATTY SANTIAGO

Patty participated in a National Docent Symposium webinar. There was helpful discussion about tour strategies and emphasis was placed on interactive tours, use of technology, and seeking diverse and youthful populations. It is important for docents to be flexible and be aware of the reasons why visitors attend. In the future, museums and docents will look to new and changing populations, use of new technology, and acting as role models for changing demographics. Patsy Hicks noted some ideas being discussed at our museum to connect with diverse visitors.

VICE PRESIDENT – KAREN HOWSAM

The December 13th Holiday Party is at the home of Docent Josie Martin and we expect approximately 50 attendees.

SECRETARY – CHRISTINE HOLLAND

No report.

TREASURER – JEFF VITUCCI

Jeff received a check from a Sustainer. The checking account balance is \$15,017 and the savings account balance is \$10,336.

There is information that the Museum is holding \$450 of funds from donations made in 2016, through the general Museum system. So far, those funds have not been located and we will continue to try to locate the funds.

The Jerry Jensen fund has \$5,750 and we will discuss possible uses for the money at a future meeting.

MEMBERSHIP – PATTY SANTIAGO FOR PATTIE FIRESTONE

There are 54 Active Docents, 9 Docents on Leave of Absence, and 35 Sustainer Docents.

ADULT TEAMS – DENISE KLASSEN AND LAURA DEPAOLI

In November, there were 34 Adult Tours with 191 attendees, for an average attendance of 6 per tour.

The Adult tour schedule January to March is now developed and will be sent to team leaders.

As the *Van Gogh* exhibit is installed, galleries will close, and the Chairs will advise touring Docents to keep abreast of changes.

The Museum has provided the calendar for Adult Tours of the *Van Gogh* exhibit. Tours will be given all days, with Fridays reserved for only Special Request tours. The regular Adult Tours will not include objects in the *Van Gogh* exhibit. Regarding scheduling, upon discussion it was decided that during the *Van Gogh* exhibit, for Saturday and Sunday tours, the Adult Tours will take place at 11:30 and the *Van Gogh* tours at 1:00.

One Provisional Docent has not yet toured, due to concerns of the Covid virus. The Adult Teams Chairs will place her on a tour team for Summer 2022.

STUDENT TEAMS – IRENE STONE AND TEDA PILCHER

In November the Student Tour Docents toured many students from all grades, second grade through High School. There were a number of special requests; Docent rose to the challenge and tours were excellent. The students were generally well-prepared for the Museum visits.

PROVISIONAL CHAIR

No report. [There is no Provisional Class for this year 2021-2022.]

RESEARCH – SARAJUM QUAZI

Sarajum has sent out a list of objects which need research papers.

EVALUATIONS – SHIRLEY WAXMAN

No report.

WEBMASTER – GAIL STICHLER

Gail, and the Board, again gave thanks to Mike Ramey for continuing excellent work. Mike is staging the information for the *Van Gogh* exhibit, including organizing the Webpage by gallery.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – PATSY HICKS AND RACHEL HEIDENRY

Patsy expressed thanks for all the work of Docents during a challenging year.

The Education Department is working with the Curators to get checklists for upcoming exhibits.

We are already getting sign-ups for school tours for the *Van Gogh* exhibit.

Chief Curator Eik Kahng will give a lecture on the *Van Gogh* exhibit for the Docent Council Meeting on January 19, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Patty adjourned the meeting at 10:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Holland, Board Secretary