

MINUTES

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING JANUARY 11, 2023

The meeting was held by Zoom. Present at the meeting: Karen Howsam; Teda Pilcher; Christine Holland; Jeff Vitucci; Denise Klassen; Susan Lowe; Patty Firestone; Shirley Waxman. Sara Jum Quazi and Gail Stichler.

Museum Education Department: Patti Santiago

President Karen Howsam called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes of the Minutes of the December 2022 meeting were approved.

BOARD REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – KAREN HOWSAM

Karen welcomed the board members and looked forward to the new year.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT - TEDA PILCHER

The Holiday party on December 12th was a lovely success, with approximately active and sustaining Docents attending. Teda thanked Josie Martin and her husband for their gracious hosting of the party. All Docents enjoyed the introduction of the new Provisional Docents.

The Docent trip to the Crissman California Islands Center in Carpinteria is scheduled for January 25.

The Docent Book Club is being revived and will be assembled by the end of January.

SECRETARY – CHRISTINE HOLLAND FOR CINDY ANDERSON

Cindy is not able to attend due to road closures impacting her home area, after a series of powerful rainstorms.

TREASURER'S REPORT – JEFF VITUCCI

Principal activities in December were checks that cleared for payment for the Provisionals' lunch (\$293.10) flowers for Jean Smith (\$97.88) and Holiday party expenses (\$22 for invites and \$125 for flowers). However, we still have, to date, outstanding accounts payable for Symposium and Holiday Party expenses. Jeff has contacted the appropriate persons regarding this issue. The Checking account balance of 31 December 2022 was \$11,162.24. The savings account balance stood at \$10,356.73.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT - PATTIE FIRESTONE

There are 50 active members with 1 Docent on LOA. There are 48 paid Sustainers. So far for this service year, Research hours total 5999 and public service hours total 353.

One docent has requested a leave of absence and at the last board meeting it was noted that there has been a history of similar requests. Pursuant to discussion and agreements at the last meeting, Patty replied to the docent by e mail to state that the board has granted her request for LOA for 2022-2024 (request was retroactive to start of docent service year last September). There are stipulations or requirements: The docent will be evaluated before doing a public tour (as it has been several years since she last toured). She must sign up for full 45 minute tours, not only Ten Talks. The docent was reminded that the By-Laws state that she cannot take two LOA in a row. It was noted that she may choose to become a Sustaining Docent. Patty thanked her for her years of service.

ADULT TOURS – DENISE KLASSEN

Last month, there were several tours which had to be cancelled due to last minute illness. In next month's La Muse we will remind all what to do when unable to tour as scheduled. Generally, tours were well attended. There were 3 with no visitor attending (all in Highlights), which appear to be due to lower museum attendance in general. Next month, we will start with providing one tour per day.

STUDENT TOURS – NICOLA GHERSEN AND IRENE STONE

In December, docents toured a total of 271 students in grades 2-8, and there are many scheduled tours for January. For the Artful Making events, Itoka has notified the Thursday teams that the new theme will be "Ancient World". The Docent council received many thank you notes from Ellwood's 5th grade class, and those notes were shared with the Docents.

RESEARCH – SARAJUM QUAZI

SaraJum continues to select objects that need research papers.

EVALUATIONS – SHIRLEY WAXMAN

The Evaluations for the Provisionals' 3-minute Tours has taken place and all were successful. Evaluations of touring Docents are proceeding as scheduled.

WEBMASTER – GRETEL ROTHROCK

No report.

PROVISIONAL CLASS REPORT – PATTY SANTIAGO

Several of the Provisional Docents attended the Holiday Party and, as per tradition, were introduced at that time. Many commented on how much they enjoyed the event. Patty thanked Teda for organizing.

The Provisional Docents have all chosen an artwork for a research paper and will be turning in rough drafts next week. The 8-minute talks were discussed and will take place on February 8th. [note: the date was subsequently continued to February 15]. The Art History component of the program begins this week with a presentation by Docent Ralph Wilson regarding Antiquities.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – PATTY SANTIAGO

The regular Docent Meeting of January 18th will feature tour training regarding a different way of looking at art and working on interactive strategies. There will be handouts available before the tour.

Docent Badges will be ready next week.

The Asian Gallery upstairs is open and we hope to get a checklist soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Karen adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m..

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Holland, acting Board Secretary for Cindy Anderson

