

MINUTES

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING JANUARY 12, 2022

Present at a meeting by Zoom: Patty Santiago; Karen Howsam; Christine Holland; Jeff Vitucci; Teda Pilcher; SaraJum Quazi; 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 December 8, 2021 meeting were approved.

BOARD REPORTS

PRESIDENT – PATTY SANTIAGO

The Museum has decided to institute a two-week pause in all docent tours, due to the rise in Covid cases in the county,

After discussions on the topic of a Dress Code for Docents, there is a Motion, which was sustained, to put the information in the Standing Rules and remove it from the By Laws. Upon discussion, the Board voted to delete a reference to “comfortable footwear is highly suggested.” The language, which will be sent out to all Docents, is as follows:

“Docents should dress in a professional manner in attire that is clean, neat and appropriate for public and educational tours. Please keep the demographic you are touring in mind and consider your audience when choosing your attire.”

VICE PRESIDENT – KAREN HOWSAM

The December 13th Holiday Party was a success, and all Board Members thanked Karen for her work.

Karen continues to monitor changes in Covid situations, to determine if a planned Docent trip to Dallas museums and to The Crystal Bridges Museum may go forward.

SECRETARY – CHRISTINE HOLLAND

No report.

TREASURER – JEFF VITUCCI

The checking account balance is \$15,017 and the savings account balance is \$10, 337.

With Board approval, the donations given in memory of Jerry Jensen and two other Docents will be consolidated. The Education Department has kindly given some suggestions for use of the funds. The topic will be discussed further at a future meeting.

MEMBERSHIP – PATTY SANTIAGO FOR PATTIE FIRESTONE

There are 53 Active Docents, 10 Docents on Leave of Absence, and 35 Sustainer Docents. There are 1813 hours of research recorded and 98 hours of public tours.

One Docent who has, over the years, asked for quite a few Leaves of Absence, has again asked for a LOA due to concerns about the spread of the Covid virus. Upon discussion, it was determined to grant the

request. If there are future requests, the Board may consider taking into consideration the history of such requests.

ADULT TEAMS – DENISE KLASSEN AND LAURA DEPAOLI

All tours are on hold until January 25, 2022. The Van Gogh tour team met, and has picked out touring dates. Last month there were 37 tours with 233 attendees, with an average of 6 per tour.

STUDENT TEAMS – IRENE STONE AND TEDA PILCHER

Docents toured 120 students in December with great flexibility and admirable creativity.

Teda raised the potential problem of getting enough Docents to join the Student Tour teams for the Van Gogh exhibit, and is soliciting more team members.. She notes that as the schedules now stand, the two tours overlap. Thus, the same team cannot tour both groups back-to-back, and there must be two separate teams. She will meet with the Education Department to discuss these issues further.

PROVISIONAL CHAIR

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

RESEARCH – SARAJUM QUAZI

Sarajum continues to monitor which objects need research papers.

EVALUATIONS – SHIRLEY WAXMAN

All evaluations for the Fall term have been completed. Further evaluations will be on hold during this month while no tours are given.

WEBMASTER – GAIL STICHLER

Gail, and the Board, again gave thanks to Mike Ramey for continuing excellent work.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – PATSY HICKS AND RACHEL HEIDENRY

Patsy noted the difficult decision made to pause touring for two weeks, and thanked the Board and all Docents for their support. She noted that all Museum meetings and programming, including Docent meetings and lectures, will be done by Zoom for this “pause” time period.

She gave thanks for the excellent website for Van Gogh exhibit, as well as the excellent work on La Muse. There was a discussion about the systems and gallery closures planned for installation of the Van Gogh exhibit.

Patsy noted there are two new contemporary works installed in the Park Entrance area.

ADJOURNMENT

Patty adjourned the meeting at 10:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Holland, Board Secretary