

MINUTES

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING JUNE 9, 2021

The meeting was held on-line by Zoom. *[Note re context: during this time 2020-21, there have been no Docent tours, or in-person meetings, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.]*

Present: Patty Santiago; Karen Howsam; Christine Holland; Jeff Vitucci; Shirley Waxman; Sara Bangser; Paul Guido; Pattie Firestone; Irene Stone, Vikki Duncan; Sarajum Quazi; Denise Klassen; and Gail Stichler.

Museum Education Department: Rachel Heidenry.

President Santiago called the meeting, the last of this service year, to order at 9:30 a.m.

On Motion, the Minutes of the meeting of May 4, 2021 were approved.

BOARD REPORTS

PRESIDENT – PATTY SANTIAGO

Recent efforts have concentrated on preparing the Preference Sheets for next year. Patty thanked Rachel for her excellent work.

Patty and Ralph Wilson met with the New Actives and discussed the Preference Sheets, and touring Contemporary Art.

Patty noted the resignation of Sara Bangser who will be moving to another state, and thanked her for her service to the Docent Council.

Patty reviewed the events of the last year, as detailed in her Year End Report. The Council and Board continued to meet by Zoom all year, and *La Muse* continued to be sent each month. Karen organized several virtual tours for the Docents. The Education Department created several "Special Projects" for Docents to participate in remotely. The Board passed two resolutions: (1) to waive touring requirements for the last year while the Museum was closed, and (2) to waive term limits for the Board members, so they will continue next year. Patty and others participated in meetings with Adult and Student Team leaders to create the Preference Sheets; they have been sent out and there is a due-date of July 1st. The Museum requires all Docents and employees to have received the Covid-19 vaccination. Patty concluded with words of optimism for next year.

VICE PRESIDENT – KAREN HOWSAM

Karen is working on a possible Docent trip to Dallas museums and to the Crystal Bridges Museum.

SECRETARY – CHRISTINE HOLLAND

No report.

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TREASURER – JEFF VITUCCI

As of the end of May , the savings account balance is \$10,328 and the checking account balance is \$5,911. We received a recent payment of dues from a Sustainer Docent. All checks have cleared except one check sent for the Getty Museum tour; Karen will follow up with the Getty Docent. Jeff will present a Year-End Report at the end of the fiscal year.

Jeff discussed the Proposed Budget he had sent out to the Board members. He estimated for next year \$4150 revenues (Docent Dues of \$4000, some donations) and \$2350 in expenditures (Holiday party; gifts and flowers; Graduation and Recognition Event; computer website). At the suggestion of Sara Bangser, it was agreed to revisit the Budget at the end of the first quarter to address any changes in circumstances.

A **MOTION** to approve the Proposed Budget was made and approved; the motion included the agreement to revisit the Budget at the end of the first quarter.

MEMBERSHIP – PATTIE FIRESTONE

There are 70 active Docents and 44 Sustainer Docents. Reported research hours are 3466.

Pattie addressed two issues re giving service year credits. (1) One docent asked for a Leave of Absence for the previous year, during which no one toured anyway, and now has asked for a second year's Leave of Absence. The By Laws provide that with a second request, the Docent's status must be as a Sustaining Docent. After discussion, and on **MOTION**, the Board agreed to approve the Docent's request for a second year of Leave of Absence (without being required to be a Sustaining Docents). (2) One Docent is due for a 25 year Pin, but during one recent service year was on Leave of Absence for four months. After discussion, and on **MOTION**, the Board agreed to approve the granting of a 25 year service pin.

The Docent Recognition Awards for the years 2020 and 2021 are planned for the first two Docent Council Meetings in September 2021.

Jeff noted as a reminder that Docents with LOA status are still required to pay their yearly Docent dues.

ADULT TEAMS – VIKKI DUNCAN AND SARA BANGSER

Vikki noted that she will step back from the Adult Chair duties, and thanked all for their assistance. Denise Klassen will step in to take her place as an Adult Chair. All Board members recognized and thanked Vikki for her excellent service to the Docent Council over the years.

STUDENT TEAMS – IRENE STONE

Irene has taken steps to set up student tours for next year, and the various possibilities are clearly noted on the Preference Sheets.

PROVISIONAL CHAIR – PAUL GUIDO

No report

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RESEARCH – SARA JUM QUAZI

Sarajum is expecting several new research papers. She will send to Docents a list of objects that need research papers.

EVALUATIONS – SHIRLEY WAXMAN

Shirley and Paul will offer to do formal or informal evaluations of tours, as Docents begin to prepare for a new touring year with so many new objects on display.

WEBMASTER – GAIL STICHLER

Gail asks to be advised of all upcoming important Docent dates, to post them on the website.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION – RACHEL HEIDENRY

Rachel thanked the Docent Board members for an excellent and supportive year. She is pleased to announce the opening date for the Museum with its new galleries: August 14, 2021. She proposes a starting date for Docent tours about one month later, on September 14th. She will explore with the Museum a request that Docents be given access to the new galleries as soon as possible so they can start preparing their tours.

Several Docents are participating in training for giving tours to blind and sight impaired visitors. They plan to offer tours first by Zoom, and later in the year for in-museum tours.

Upon discussion, it was hoped that next year's Docent Council Board meetings will be held in-person and not by Zoom.

Scheduling for tours during the Van Gogh exhibit may be changed if the Museum decides to extend hours.

Rachel will set up a meeting with Team Leaders and others to review the Preference Sheets and set up tour teams.

It is noted that Docents will benefit from receiving their tour team assignments as early as possible.

ADJOURNMENT

Patty thanked all on the Board for their work during an unusual and somewhat difficult year, and adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Holland, Board Secretary