

Santa Barbara Museum of Art Docent Council Board Meeting
Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Ridley-Tree Education Center

1. **Call to order:** President Patty Santiago called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

Board members present: President: Patty Santiago, Vice President: Karen Howsam, Treasurer: Jeff Vitucci, Membership: Pattie Firestone, Adult Team Chairs: Denise Klassen, Student Team Chairs: Irene Stone and Teda Pilcher, Research: Sarajum Quazi, Evaluation Chair: Shirley Waxman, Webmaster: Gail Stichler.

Absent: Secretary: Christine Holland. Evaluations: Paul Guido.

In attendance: Patsy Hicks, Director of Education and Rachel Heidenry, Manager of Docent & Academic Programs.

2. **Approval of Minutes**

Action Item: Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 13, 2021, Docent Board meeting as distributed was made by Jeff Vitucci. Seconded. No corrections or additions. Passed unanimously.

3. **Board Reports**

President: Patty Santiago

Vice President Karen Howsam was thanked for chairing last month's Board.

Patty met with Patsy and Rachel on Wednesday, November 3rd to begin discussing plans for a provisional class for next year. Rachel estimates that she has already received over twenty inquiries about the program. They discussed having an open house for prospective docents in mid-January with a brief introduction and tours. We would still hold the usual open house and reception with more in-depth information in May. The discussion also centered on strategies for making the class more relevant and useful, as well as more participatory.

Dress Code: There have been some issues and questions concerning the proper dress code for touring and the interpretation and relevance of the current dress code in the Docent By-laws. Patsy spoke with museum director, Larry Fienberg about what would be appropriate for touring the public and Rachel researched other programs dress codes. Patsy felt docent dress should be clean, neat, and appropriate for the group you are touring.

To modify or change the current dress code in the Docent By-Laws would require a Docent Council vote. There was discussion on changing the dress code from a By-Law to Standing Rules. This change would also require a vote by the Docent Council.

Dress code currently reads:

- 3.2 DRESS CODE 1. A Docent shall dress professionally when performing Docent duties. Professional dress does not include jeans, shorts, athletic clothing, sports shoes, or flip-flops.
- 2. A Docent shall wear the Museum issued ID card while in the Museum.

Proposed change:

1. Docents should wear 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. Comfortable footwear is highly suggested.
2. A docent shall wear the Museum issued ID card while in the Museum.

After a lengthy discussion it was clear that more thought and consideration is needed before moving forward with any changes to the docent dress code.

Vice President/President elect: Karen Howsam

The Holiday Party will be Monday, December 13, 2:30 pm to 5 pm at Josie Martin's home.

Secretary: Shirley Waxman for Christine Holland

Treasurer: Jeff Vitucci

Report attached.

- The checking account balance as of October 31 was \$14,971.64.
- October financial transactions included collection of late Sustainer dues of \$135.00.
- An additional \$350 in contributions to the Jerry Jensen Memorial Fund (which now stands at \$5,750), and \$55.00 as a general donation contribution.
- Expenses the past month were a \$100 for flowers in memory of Jerry Jensen.
- The savings account balance stood at \$10,335.15.

Membership: Pattie Firestone

- 54 Active Members (9 Docents on LOA)
- 38 Sustaining Members paid
- 782 Hours of Research recorded
- 68 Hours of Public Tours

Adult Teams: Denise Klassen and Laura DePaoli

Report attached.

- Total tours for October: There were forty-seven tours with 292 attendees and the average attendance of six. It includes two special request tours for Meet Me at the Museum.
- Planning for Van Gogh and his Sources is underway.

Student Teams: Irene Stone and Teda Pilcher

Report attached.

- October Student Tours: 180 students in nine tours. Tours were students from grade 3 to college age. Docents conducted seven regularly scheduled and two special request tours: four groups from Peabody Charter School, UCSB Extension (English Learners), Cabrillo High School in Lompoc, Knox School, and an afterschool program.

- The students, teachers, and parents all expressed pleasure with being back in the museum and viewing the museum's extensive collection.
- For some teams, the new docents elected to shadow experienced docents on their first tour, but they will be stepping up to full presentations soon.
- November tours began with two secondary school groups of fifty each. There were varied configurations to make smooth tours for all. Both tours fell to the 1st and 2nd Tuesday groups. Pattie Firestone and her team were thanked for being flexible and willing to try new configurations.

Research Chair: Sarajum Quazi

No report.

Evaluations Chair: Shirley Waxman and Paul Guido

No report.

Webmaster: Gail Stichler

No report.

Department of Education: Patsy Hicks and Rachel Heidenry

- Southeast Asian are will not be installed in the Emma Wood gallery until after Van Gogh closes. Charlie Wiley will be installing a new photography exhibition.
- The Mix Media exhibition currently on view will remain until June.
- Rachel will keep the docents informed of any other changes for the galleries.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.

The next meeting of the Docent Council Board will be Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at 9:30 am at Ridley-Tree Educational Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Waxman for Christine Holland
Secretary, SBMA Docent Council Board