

## **DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**Santa Barbara Museum of Art**

**Date: March 8, 2017**

Present: Gail Stichler, Ralph Wilson, Mary Joyce Winder, Denise Klassen, Christine Holland, Karen Brill, Barbara Boyd, Loree Gold, Wendi Hunter, Kelly Almedia, Joan Dewhirst,

Absent: Laura De Paoli, Mei Chih Ho

CALL TO ORDER: Gail Stichler called the meeting to order at 9:36 am.

Minutes of the Docent Council Board Meeting February 2017 were approved unanimously.

### **BOARD REPORTS:**

#### **President: Gail Stichler**

Gail informed the board that she had spoken with Kathryn Padgett regarding how the Board can financially support both her and Paul Guido as presenters at the National Docent Conference in October. Kathryn responded that she did not have any expectation of financial support, but did express gratitude for any help that could be given to them. The discussion explored many options, and the matter has been tabled to be discussed at a later meeting.

Paul Guido will write a summary of their experience at the National Conference and it will be published in La Muse.

Wendi Hunter suggested that we look to a broader audience to advertise the honor bestowed upon our Docents in having been chosen to speak at the Docent National Conference. The possibility of news items in the local newspapers and the Newsletter from the Santa Barbara Museum of Art were mentioned.

Gail conveyed the happy news that our fabulous Patsy Hicks will graciously host a lunch for all Docents and Sustainers at her home. The date for this will be May 1, 2017.

Gail confirmed that there will be a Provisional Recruitment Meeting on May 9, 2017, from 3:30 to 6:00 pm for prospective new members.

Gail clarified some issues regarding service credit for Ten Talks. After a discussion of the many relevant tangents of this issue, it was decided that a docent will receive one hour service credit for a Ten Talks tour. However, the Ten Talks tours cannot be the sole source of a docent's 8 hour service credit requirement, it is in addition to at least one other touring team commitment.

Also, the email correspondence suggested that there should be less formal evaluations for Ten Talks since the docents only discuss one or two pieces of art during their Ten Talk Presentation. The board recommended that the evaluation process be reviewed to determine if the current evaluation form works or changes should be made for Ten Talks. It should be noted that Ricki Morse as team leader has requested to perform all evaluations for the team.

(See attached President Report for March 8, 2017)

#### **Vice President: Ralph Wilson**

Ralph was pleased to inform the Docent Board regarding the positive feedback he received from the attendees of the Valentine's Day party. Ralph reported that the party came in under his proposed

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budget. Large applause erupted amongst the Board. The party was a success, and Ralph suggested the idea of having an event at least annually that includes Docent partners/spouses be considered. Also he would like the party expense be added to the budget for next year. Gail suggested the Board add this additional budget item to the June Double Board meeting agenda for further discussion. The Board thanked Ralph for his efforts and the success of the event.

Ralph updated the Board on the Bus Trip to LACMA. The date has been set for Monday, March 13, 2017. 27 docents have paid.

LACMA is offering a special tour of the Picasso and Rivera: Conversations Across Time exhibition. Special tours for ticketed shows are at 10:00 am before the Museum opens. Therefore this requires that the Docents depart Santa Barbara at 7:00 am at Cabrillo and Garden to arrive in Los Angeles on time. There will be stops in Carpinteria and Ventura.

The cost for the bus trip is \$85.00.

Ralph shared that on April 19 there will be an additional bus trip to the Getty Center where we can view the SBMA antiquities collection, especially the restored Lansdowne Hermes. Other exhibitions include how antiquities were seen through medieval eyes, the relationship between drawing and sculpture, pastel portraits of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Britain, and an examination of Degas's Russian Dancers, a pastel on loan from a private collection. The cost is \$45.00 per person.

(See attached Vice President's Report March 8, 2017)

### **Secretary: Mary Joyce Winder**

The following lists Correspondence since the February 8, 2017 meeting:

Letter of Appreciation to the Presenter at the Docent Council Meetings:

Susan Tai, Elizabeth Atkins Curator of Asian Art SBMA

- Topic: Carved Paper: The Art of the Japanese Stencil
- Date: February 15, 2017

Nigel McGilchrist

- Topic: Color
- Date: March 1, 2017

A thank you card was sent to David Reichert and his wife Diane Dodds for hosting the Docent Council 2017 Valentine's Party.

Nicola Gherson is the acting Corresponding Secretary.

(See attached Secretary's Report March 8, 2017 attached)

### **Treasurer: Denise Klassen**

In her March Meeting Report Denise informed the Board that the Checking Account beginning Balance from January 31, 2017 was \$2915.15. The ending balance on February 28, 2017 was \$4189.05.

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The Savings Account beginning balance as of January 24, 2017 was \$13,258.09. The Savings Account ending balance as of February 24, 2017 was \$13,259.83.

(See Treasurer's Report & Approved Budget 2016/2017, February 8, 2017)

### **Membership: Mei Chih Ho (absent)**

Mei Chih reported that as of today's date there are 58 active Docents and two active Docents on Leave of Absence. Currently there are 37 Sustaining Docents and 4 docents that have resigned. Mei Chih indicated that from July 2016 to February 2017 there are 939 public hours reported and 7,555 research hours amounting to a grand total of 8,494 hours donated by Docents so far this year.

The Board would like Mei Chih to send out email reminders to docents that have not reported their hours and request that they please report them. The Board would like our grand total of service hours to truly reflect all we have accomplished this year at the Recognition Ceremony in June.

(See Membership Chair Report March 2017)

### **Adult Teams: Christine Holland**

Christine's written report indicated that in February 2017 for all tours the total visitors toured was 320. The total number of tours was 48, averaging 6.6 Visitors per tour. In Addition, the Community Speakers Program gave 9 presentations to a total of 241 attendees.

Wendi Hunter queried about the low number of touring hours certain focus tours were allotted (only 5 tours). Christine explained that the tours are evenly spread out amongst all teams. Christine mentioned that highlights tours need more docents especially in the coming summer. After much discussion, it was advised that the summer meeting that assigns docent preferences to teams revisit this issue.

One idea discussed was to assign people to highlights and let them focus on portraits, sculpture, color, techniques etc., within the art they are presenting on their summer highlight tour. Christine Holland will draft up a concept for the board to discuss: people that want more touring should volunteer on the summer highlights schedule. Christine and all Board Members thanked Wendi for raising this topic for discussion.

(See attached Adult Teams report)

### **Student Teams: Karen Brill**

Karen's written report indicated that in February 2017 there were 16 museum tours, including 2 home school groups, for 381 students. There were 8 classroom power point presentations reaching 178 students.

Karen shared that there are some concerns with touring students when there is only one gallery open (due to current renovation). Kelly Almeida indicated that the education office is aware of these constraints and are doing their best to schedule accordingly. Karen believes we are in good shape and asks the Board to continue to send out a positive outlook to the Council.

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Karen also lauded Wendi Hunter for teaching the New Provisional class in the Fall. She stated that this will do a lot boost morale for the docents.

(See attached March 2017 Student Teams report)

### **Provisional Chairs: Wendi Hunter**

Wendi is busy putting together the new provisional class for the fall. She is looking for assistance with teaching the course, asking board members if they have anything to offer please contact her.

(No Written Report Submitted)

### **Research: Barbara Boyd**

Barbara reported that research is ongoing for current and upcoming exhibitions: Carved Paper (katagami), Japanese art in the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition.

(See Research Chair Report March 8, 2017)

### **Webmaster: Loree Gold**

(No Written Report Submitted)

### **Evaluations: Laura DePaoli (absent)**

(No Written Report Submitted)

### **Past President/Nominations: Joan Dewhirst**

Joan reported that Active Docents have been invited to submit nominations for next year's Board Officers via email to any member of the Nominating Committee by March 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017.

The slate of candidates will be sent to Lori Mohr for publication in the April La Muse. The nominees will be announced and presented on stage at the Docent Council Meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup>. If there are no additional nominations from the floor, the election of officers and chairpersons for 2017-18 will be made by majority vote of the Active Docents present at this meeting.

Joan shared that everything is running smoothly.

(See Nominations Chair Report Submitted)

**Department of Education: Director, Patsy Hicks; Docent Program Manager, Rachael Krieps (unable to attend) Kelly Almeida present**

No report.

### **Adjournment: Gail Stichler**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:07 am.

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be April 12, 2017.

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**Note:** Monthly Board Reports are filed behind the Minutes in the Docent Council Board Meeting Minutes Binder located in the Docent Office.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Joyce Winder, Secretary