

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
Date: September 13, 2017

Present: Ralph Wilson; Gail Stichler; Laura DePaoli; Mary Ellen Hoffman; Denise Klassen; Wendi Hunter; Irene Stone; Patty Santiago; Mary Joyce Winder; Christine Holland; Barbara Boyd; Karen Brill; Loree Gold.
Museum Education Department: Patsy Hicks; Rachael Krieps

CALL TO ORDER: Ralph Wilson

Ralph called the meeting to order at 9:30.

BOARD REPORTS:

President: Ralph Wilson

Ralph welcomed all to the new Docent service year. He first noted that all wish to congratulate Rachael Krieps on her recent engagement, and passed out congratulatory bakery treats.

Ralph also noted our sadness at the recent death of Dwight Coffin and noted several dozen Docents attended the memorial service. The Docent Council had sent flowers to the home.

Ralph reported that during the summer, the Executive Committee met with Kathryn Padgett and Shirley Waxman and established that the CSP is an "adult tour" qualifying for service credit. Minutes from those meetings are included with the President's report herein.

Minutes of the Double Board Meeting in June were approved.
(See attached President Report.)

Vice President: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen noted some activities during the summer. Docents attended a docent-led tour at the Historical Museum re the art of Edward Borein and Edwin Deakin. Also, many attended a tour by Director Judy Lawson at the Westmont Art Museum, of the exhibit "Modern Art Comes to Santa Barbara."

Future events being planned include:

- Monday November 20, a trip to LACMA for exhibit of painting in Mexico.
- Visits to art exhibits at UCSB and/or the Historical Museum.
- The Holiday Party will be on December 11th at the home of Josie Martin.
- Past President Gail Stichler is working on plans for a trip to New York, for the last week of April 2018.

(See attached Vice President's Report.)

Secretary: Christine Holland

There were no matters to report.

Treasurer: Denise Klassen

Denise provided copies of the Proposed Budget, and the Account Balances. We have received almost all Docent dues for the next service year.

There is a difference of \$1280 between the current budget for dues, and the actual dues collected, due to lower docent membership numbers. Denise raised the question of raising dues which are now at \$35 a year but notes that even raising dues would not solve the problem.

We have the National Docent Symposium in October and there is a current budget amount for 3 people to attend. This is the current President and Vice President, a usual expense. Also, attending will be past-president Gail Stichler, who was not able to attend during her presidential year, and wishes to attend this year instead. Last year, the Board had approved this request and budgeted for Gail's attendance.

Previously, the Board voted also for payments for the 2 Docents who will attend because they have been asked to be presenters. Denise spoke with the 2 presenters about costs, and the costs requested would be \$2080. Ralph noted that it is an honor for our museum to be asked to be a presenter, and it is not likely that this would be a recurring expense in future years. MOTION by Denise, seconded by Wendi: that the Board approve reimbursement totaling \$2080 for 2 Docents to be presenters at the October 2017 National Docent Symposium. The motion was carried unanimously.

Dense reported that we have \$1600 in the Memorial Fund.

For the Yearly Budget, the Council discussed and implemented several changes:

Provisional Chair: change \$1050 to \$700 for reimbursement costs to the Provisional Chair and assistant.

Continuing Education: delete the \$500 item which is not used.

Computer Maintenance: delete the item which is not used.

Miscellaneous: delete the item which is not used.

Docent Directory Printing Costs: delete the item which is not used.

Docent Art Show Funding: delete the previously-budgeted \$375 and roll the amount into the general reserves.

ACTION ITEM: Denise will prepare a new Budget showing these changes and will send to Docent Council Board members for a vote by e mail. (See attached Treasurer Reports.)

Membership: Mary Joyce Winder

Mary Joyce met with Gail in June to research Membership records to identify gaps or "unknowns" in membership or sustainer status. Patsy will reach out to some of these prior members to invite them to a meeting and to come back as sustainers.

There is a question re the efficacy of the docent website for reporting hours – it is necessary to send an e mail to membership to report hours.

Docent Membership:

53 active docents

4 docents on leave of absence

31 sustainer docents.

(See attached Membership Report)

Adult Teams: Irene Stone and Patty Santiago

August tour stats are attached.

Irene presented options for the number and structure of docent tours in the future (starting January 2018). These options were created after hours of work to review and analyze docent tour information from past years. Irene and Patty prepared a detailed analysis prior to the board meeting (attached).

They proposed 3 different plans:

--- 2 tours a day

---1 tour a day (mix of Highlights and Focus)

--- 1 tour Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 2 tours Friday, Saturday and Sunday (mix of Highlights and Focus).

There was a discussion on the merits of each proposal.

MOTION: Wendi moved and Denise seconded: For docent tours from January through June 2018, that the docents will give 1 tour Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 2 tours Friday, Saturday and Sunday (mix of Highlights and Focus). The single tours will be at 1:00 and the two tours will be at 1:00 and 2:00. The motion carried.

The situation will be reviewed at a board meeting in March, to decide whether to continue with the plan. The early decision is required because there is a need to prepare tour calendars several months in advance.

(see attached Adult Tour Reports)

Student Tours: Karen Brill

There have been reviews of issues and logistics to allow tours to proceed more smoothly. Also reviewed was the status of classroom presentations.

We now have 4 Student Teams, and student special request tours will be scheduled at other times.

The Power Point team for in-classroom presentations has been eliminated due to several considerations. Patsy is preparing a quick-time video for teachers to use, to introduce students to museum visits. When the video is ready, it will be put on the Docent website and shown at a Docent meeting.

The student team leaders plan to meet each time there is a change in gallery exhibits.

Karen noted that frequently, teachers are not returning evaluation forms, and we will consider sending the forms electronically to them for ease in completing the forms.

(see attached Student Teams Report)

Provisional Chair: Wendi Hunter

We will start the Provisional Class on September 27th with 6 committed members. There may be a few more due to recent ads in the press. There are assigned mentors for each student.

As requested, docents have stepped up to give presentations to the class.

Wendi noted the importance of constant cultivation of potential new class members through contacts made all during the year. There are information postcards available for docent use.

Research: Barbara Boyd

Barbara noted that she will not be able to devote as much time as wished to the Research duties due to her husband's illness. She has relied upon, and sincerely thanks, Loree Gold for help with the research. Everyone offered their support.

Evaluations: Laura DePaoli

A team leader meeting is scheduled to discuss evaluations, Laura is coordinating all evaluations schedules.
(see attached Evaluations Report).

Web Master: Loree Gold

Loree reported about the new posts regarding art objects on display. The art objects in Ridley Tree Gallery are now covered with research articles, and there is no information about the Valeska Soares exhibit.

Past President/Nominations: Gail Stichler

Gail will convene the nominations committee in January 2018.

Museum Report: Patsy Hicks

Patsy gave information about the many programs and events scheduled for the next months, especially regarding the Valeska Soares exhibit. She noted information about the lecture schedule for the docent meetings including the September 20th meeting which will feature a talk about literary allusions in the Valeska Soares exhibit,

Re the exhibit, the artist wants the visitor to experience the works first without a "guide," so instead of detailed wall panel information, there will be an "after guide" to give to visitors after they visit. Also, there is an audio guide "Side Bar" to be on the museum website, featuring various people talking about aspects of the exhibit.

Also on line will be a filmed interview with Valeska Soares, and a film about the taffy pull and the panel discussions on opening day.

Regarding student touring, they are revisiting the "What If" guides to include information about the Valeska Soares exhibit.

On October 22nd, there will be a community celebration; plans will include ideas re scent, dance, book arts, music, moods, and songs of love and loss. There will also be a film series.

The Teacher Open House is set for September 22nd.

The "Parallel Stories" event is set for October 1st.

Adjournment: Ralph Wilson

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be November 8, 2017.

There will be no Docent Council Board Meeting in October because several officers will be attending the National Docent Symposium.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Holland, Docent Council Secretary