

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Santa Barbara Museum of Art

February 14, 2018

Present: Ralph Wilson, Mary Ellen Hoffman, Denise Klassen, Mary Joyce Winder, Irene Stone, Karen Brill, Wendi Hunter, Patty Santiago, Loree Gold, Gail Stichler

Education Department: Patsy Hicks, Rachael Kreips

CALL TO ORDER: Ralph Wilson

Ralph called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

BOARD REPORTS: (See attached reports)

President: Ralph Wilson

Ralph noted that he had nothing to report for this meeting. There are no issues currently to bring before the board. Ralph expressed his appreciation for the expertise and strength of the board. He has complete confidence in the ability of board members to immediately and successfully resolve problems.

Since some board members reported that they had not received the January minutes, it was decided to wait until the next meeting to approve both the minutes for January and February.

Vice President: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen had two items to report:

1. The Celebration of Love and Friendship party will be held Friday, February 16th at the home of David Reichert and Diane Dodds. David and Diane are very gracious hosts and are bearing a lot of the expenses themselves. For this reason, Mary Ellen will be purchasing them a \$100 gift card for dinner as a thank you. There won't be a formal program, but the provisional docents will be introduced by name.
2. A bus trip to the Norton Simon Museum is planned for March 26th to view the Degas exhibition.

Secretary: Christine Holland

Christine was absent and there were no matters to report.

Treasurer: Denise Klassen

There was little activity to report for the past month. There was one amendment of \$51.32 for the LACMA Bus Trip. A check that hadn't previously cleared went through. And, there were additional funds deposited for new sustainers.

Membership: Mary Joyce Winder

As of February 2018, there are 55 active docents, with 7 of those actives on a leave of absence. The number of sustaining docents is 37. And there are 7 provisional docents. Total hours reported from June 2017 to January 2018 are 9376.3. These hours are not final as many docents have not reported all of their hours.

Mary Joyce also read a new policy for new sustaining docents. (Please see her report.)

Adult Teams: Irene Stone

There were 35 tours in January with 118 visitors and an average of 3.4 per tour. There were no Special Request tours. There were 4 Community Speakers presentations with 86 attendees. In January it was noted that there were no special exhibitions and the new schedule of only one tour Tuesday through Thursday began.

Irene commented that on one of her tours there were several visitors in the museum, however, no one wanted a tour. So, she decided to move around the gallery and engage in short conversations with people. A short discussion followed on how that might be a good recommendation for all docents to consider when visitors do not want a formal tour.

The second quarterly museum calendar of tours is being revised as "Brought to Light" will be closing April 22nd, much earlier than anticipated.

Irene brought up an issue. It has been difficult to cover all the tour times with a reduced number of docents. She asked if provisional docents could be used in June and the weekends for Highlights tours. In the past, provisional docents have only had to tour Highlights during the week July through September. There were a few other suggestions of possible solutions to cover tours such as one docent covering two back-to-back tours. Ralph commented that we need to provide docents for when the museum needs them.

By the next meeting two months with the new schedule will have gone by. Irene suggested that we review and evaluate the new schedule at that time.

Student Tours: Karen Brill

There were 9 student tours in January with 263 students toured. There were also 27 high school students toured. Last minute tours were scheduled for both Mt. Carmel and Crane Schools, which had been adversely affected by the Montecito mudslides.

Karen foresees a possible problem with procuring team leaders for student teams next year. It was suggested that provisional docents be given that opportunity.

Provisional Chair: Wendi Hunter

The provisional class is back on track after missing two classes due to the Thomas fire and the freeway closure. There was one resignation of a provisional student. This leaves the class with 7 students. All rough drafts of the research papers have been turned into Barbara.

On February 7th provisional docents presented their 3 minute talks. All, but one, passed that day. The one that didn't pass is redoing the talk today. They will then quickly move to working on their 8 minute

talks. Observations of tours are ongoing. Provisionals will be accompanying student tours and presenting two pieces of art using VTS in the next few weeks.

Evaluations Chair: Laura De Paoli

Evaluations were disrupted in January due to the Thomas fire and mudslides with several tours being canceled. There are still 6 student tour evaluations outstanding as there was a slow start to student tours. And, there is one *Fall Highlights* evaluation to be completed. *75th Anniversary* team evaluations were partially completed. And, all *Valeska Soares* evaluations were completed. *Color* team evaluations were disrupted with cancellations. *Brought to Light* and *Crosscurrents* tour evaluations have been scheduled.

Webmaster: Loree Gold

Six of the seven research reports completed by the provisional docents were excerpted and included in the recent *La Muse*. Loree needs the list of upcoming speakers for the Docent Council meetings for the website. A research paper on Dorothy Hood written by David Reichert has been posted to the website. Mike Ramey did a wonderful job posting to the website research on all 13 works in the "*Brought to Light*" photography exhibition. For the "*Crosscurrents*" exhibition three papers for painted portraits have been posted. And, three more papers on painted portraits will be posted. Unfortunately, there is no research to be posted for the photography portraits in that exhibition.

Nominations Chair: Gail Stichler

Please see attached report.

Education Department: Patsy Hicks and Rachael Kriepps

Patsy updated the board on speakers for the future Docent Council meetings.

Julie Joyce has a contemporary show of large scale drawings coming up in future months. The checklist is not yet available. The FRC will be turned into a large drawing room during that exhibition.

Also, plans are in the works for a music workshop for high school and college students featuring Ted Nash, a jazz musician, during July.

Patsy commented on and apologized for the noise during the demolition of McCormick gallery. But, it is also an exciting sign of progress in the renovation.

Adjournment: Ralph Wilson

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

The next Docent Council Meeting will be March 14, 2018.