

DOCENT COUNCIL DOUBLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
Date: June 13, 2018

Present: Mary Ellen Hoffman; Ralph Wilson; Denise Klassen; Patty Santiago; Mary Joyce Winder; Karen Brill; Laura DePaoli; Gail Stichler; Loree Gold; Wendi Hunter; Joan Dewhirst; Helene Strobel; Irene Stone; David Reichert.
Museum Education Department: Patsy Hicks; Rachael Krieps.
Absent: Barbara Boyd; Christine Holland; Erika Budig; Vikki Duncan.

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Incoming President Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 9:44.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Outgoing President Ralph Wilson stated that the minutes of the Board meeting of May 9, 2018 have been revised to reflect the election of new officers. Montecito Bank and Trust requires a copy of the minutes with the slate of new officers.

Mary Joyce Winder moved to approve the minutes as revised, Mary Ellen seconded and the minutes were approved. Outgoing Treasurer Denise Klassen discussed the change of signature cards at the bank. Reyna Kaufman is the contact person at the bank for that change. (See attached minutes as revised)

BOARD REPORTS:

Outgoing President: Ralph Wilson

Ralph highlighted touring changes as noted in his report. Focus tours have been changed to Docent's Choice. Junior and senior high school tours have been integrated with elementary school tours, so that the student touring teams are responsible for all grades. All adult tours are to begin in Colefax Gallery.

Over the course of the year a lot of discussion was had regarding morale in light of gallery closures, decreased visitor numbers and the Thomas Fire/Montecito mudslide.

The Council celebrated the engagement of Rachael Krieps and the graduation of 7 New Active Docents, and mourned the passing of docent Dwight Coffin.

(See attached President's Report—The 2017-2018 Docent Year in Review)

Outgoing Vice President/Incoming President: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen noted that today would have been her father's 100th Birthday, and that he would smile on what she was doing with the Council.

She highlighted the Borein/Deakin tour at the SB Historical Museum followed by lunch at C'est Cheese, and observed that the cheese shop has gone out of business due to the impact of the disaster.

She thanked Ralph for bringing the morning's breakfast.

On July 20, a group of 14 docents went to the Westmont Ridley-Tree Museum to see "How Modernism Came to Santa Barbara, 1945-1990". Judy Larson led a tour, and observed that it was likely that many of the pieces would have been discarded in prior years, before their value came to be appreciated.

In October a group went to the Historical Museum for "Sacred Art in the Time of Contact." This was a runup to the "Painted in Mexico, 1700-1790" exhibition at LACMA

The Holiday Party was to be held at the Montecito home of Josie and Ed Martin, but Mary Ellen and the hosts canceled it due to the fire threat and poor air quality. Mary

Ellen second-guessed herself before realizing that she had made the right call. In February, with the danger passed, the Council came together at the Dodds-Reichert home.

In March a group went to the Norton Simon to see the "Taking Shape: Degas as Sculptor" show.

For April, the report should be corrected to refer to the "reprise" of the NYC trip, as opposed to "reprieve."

In response to a query from Wendi Hunter, Mary Ellen said that the bus trips come pretty close to breaking even. Sometimes there is a small deficit. The trips are not designed to make a profit, but to break even.

(See attached Vice President End of Year Report.)

Incoming Vice President: Mary Joyce Winder

Mary Joyce said to feel free to e-mail her with any ideas. She relies on the experience of other people on the Council.

Outgoing Secretary: Christine Holland

Absent

Incoming Secretary: David Reichert

I commented that I wish I knew Gregg or Pitman, otherwise nothing to report.

Outgoing Treasurer: Denise Klassen

Denise stated that our budget is currently \$266.03 in the red. The cost of this year's Graduation and Service Awards Event is over budget this year due to a carryover of some cost from last year's event.

Denise and Ralph observed that a vote had been taken at a previous Board meeting for no dues increase.

Mary Joyce inquired as to the checking account balance; Denise pointed out the \$2,116.77 on the budget report.

Discussion was had of the "Donations to Board Held in Museum Account". This refers to checks made out to SBMA for the benefit of the Council. Some restrictions exist on the use of those funds.

(See attached End of Year Budget Report.)

Incoming Treasurer: Patty Santiago

Nothing to report

Outgoing Membership: Mary Joyce Winder

Introduced Helene Strobel as the incoming Membership Chair, then went over her report.

Introduced the binder that is used to track attendance and to calculate years of service for Service Pins. She set up Excel sheets to replace the old system of handwriting and stick-on stars.

Introduced the attendance, hours and sustainer attendance sheets to Helene, and the sustainer request form. Helene will also have custody of the binder and "2 huge boxes".

Gail asked if the figure of 61 Active Docents includes the New Actives and LOA Actives. The answer was yes to both.

(See attached Membership Report)

Incoming Membership: Helene Strobel

Helene said that she is “honored and happy” to assume the office.

Adult Teams: Irene Stone

Discussion was had of private tours and the need to report them in the interest of complete statistics. Patsy said that docents should get Rachael’s approval for private tours so as to avoid conflict with other gallery activity such as curatorial tours.

Irene observed the reduction of Ten Talks to First Thursdays only.

Each month sees 3 to 7 tours with no guests.

Highlights and Focus Tours were converted to Docent’s Choice in the interest of having fewer and larger touring teams, making substitutions easier.

Irene was not feeling well and departed after giving her report.

(See attached Adult Team Year End Report, “Adult Tour Statistics” for May 2018, and the letter report from the Community Speakers Team.)

Education Department: Patsy Hicks

Patsy’s presentation was delivered out of order due to her schedule. Ordinarily the Education Department presentation follows the conclusion of Board Reports.

Patsy observed that this challenging past year allowed the Council to shine. In particular she spoke of:

- 1) Graduation, and of how trustee Joan Davidson attends to be inspired.
- 2) The memorial hosted by Shirley Waxman for Dwain Morse, husband of Ricki Morse. Most docents who attended did not know Dwain, but came to honor Ricki.

Patsy said to go see the “Summer Nocturne” exhibition. On September 6 Richard (Dick) Dunlap will be playing the piano in front of his “Summer Nocturne”, the title piece.

She observed someone dancing in the Ridley-Tree Gallery in front of the Gerd Koch painting.

April Street will be our Artist in Residence this summer. Patsy described the activities that she will be involved in.

The Family Resource Center is now in the Café space and is based on “Summer Nocturne.” Visitors notice the Center more in the open location.

Susan Tai will open her Japanese Screens show in November, to allow the use of Davidson Gallery for Dia de los Muertos.

On July 7 Ted Nash will give a jazz performance in the Auditorium.

The Teacher Mailer for the upcoming academic year is done; never before completed so early. On September 14 will be the first Teacher Open House.

Dana Gioia, California Poet Laureate, will be at the Museum on October 11 as part of Parallel Stories. His presentation will be titled “Can Poetry Matter?”

The Summer Scavenger Hunt is based on the color yellow.

Patsy introduced the new Education Department book, titled Art is Start: Education Programs at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Copies were distributed to Board members.

Wendi Hunter offered kudos for Luna Vallejo-Howard.

Patsy departed to meet the instructor for “Writing in the Galleries.”

Student Teams: Karen Brill

(See attached Student Teams Year End Report 2018)

Karen verbally added to her report that a student-touring workshop was held for the Valeska Soares exhibition.

Rachael requested a final aggregate number of students toured. Karen will follow up with a final number after all tours are accounted for. The numbers in the report are a “rough estimate.”

Outgoing Provisional Co-Chair: Wendi Hunter

Wendi led and Erika Budig assisted in training the Class of 2018. The group began with 8 Provisional Docents, lost one to a medical problem, and graduated 7 New Active Docents.

Wendi and Erika worked independently as needed due to the fire/mudslide and the ensuing long closure of Highway 101. Erika, a Camarillo resident, met with Ventura-area provisionals and Wendi with SB local provisionals. Erika is a clinical psychologist by profession and at times helped the group handle tough post-disaster feelings.

Wendi observed that 2 months of the formal classroom/gallery training was lost to the disaster and said that the cohort has not had enough gallery time. She put out the call for more experienced docents to help the New Actives with “smoothing rough edges.”

She thanked Paul Guido, Kathryn Padgett, Karen Brill and Rachael Krieps for training presentations that they made.

(Report to follow)

Provisional Co-Chair: Erika Budig and Incoming Provisional Co-Chair: Vikki Duncan

Absent

Past President/Nominations: Gail Stichler (outgoing); Ralph Wilson (incoming)

Presentation made out of order.

Gail expressed appreciation and thanked all docents. She observed that nominations are made in the light of the whole Council as opposed to only the Board. She departed early.

Ralph commented that he will not take requests NOT to be on the Board, for a while.

Research: Barbara Boyd

Absent

Wendi noted that all New Active research papers have been posted.

Evaluations: Laura DePaoli (outgoing)

Introduced her report. She will be handing over 4 binders of past evaluations and other items to Joan Dewhirst.

(See attached evaluations report)

Evaluations: Joan Dewhirst (incoming)

She is proud of our evaluation program and is looking forward to her office. She observed that our program keeps the bar high in quality of tours.

Webmaster: Loree Gold

Mike Ramey and Loree work together. Mike handles coding. Barbara and Loree do most input.

Web hosting contract with GoDaddy renewed.

Lockout during the login process has been a problem.

Requested time at first fall Council meeting to refresh the Council on how to use the website.

A total of 19 posts were made to the site in May.
Mike and Loree created a flowchart for the website, as to how to get things added.

All Board members have their own pages on the site.
(Report to follow)

Education Department: Rachael Krieps

Rachael had nothing to add beyond Patsy's report other than to note that she will be working in the Ridley-Tree education center this summer.

Interviews for the next provisional class are to be held in July.

OLD BUSINESS:

Wendi asked Rachael if she has set a wedding date. Not yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ralph had spoken with some people about revising the Bylaws. They have not been updated in 10 years.

Ralph volunteered to revise the Bylaws with Board approval, doing it by section. The first section (Financial Policies) is a legal requirement; the Museum and Board of Trustees would not allow changes.

This would be a cleanup, not introducing anything new.

The Board will first approve the final revised Bylaws, with the full Council then giving its approval.

Laura DePaoli wanted to have a committee, rather than a single person, do the job; Wendi Hunter said that one other person, in addition to Ralph, would be good.

Loree Gold proposed that a Revision Committee pick up after Ralph prepares the first draft by himself. The Revision Committee will be composed of Joan Dewhirst, Mary Ellen Hoffman and Ralph Wilson. The full Board commended this compromise.

Laura noted that Ricki Morse is doing the first Summer Nocturne tour on Friday, June 15 at 2:00 PM. She encouraged other docents to take her tour, in support and solidarity.

Helene Strobel said to use e-mail or landline to contact her; she is having problems with cellular.

ADJOURNMENT: Mary Ellen Hoffman

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be September 12, 2018.

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

Respectfully submitted,

David Reichert, Docent Council Secretary