

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
Date: February 13, 2019

Present: Mary Ellen Hoffman; Mary Joyce Winder; David Reichert; Patty Santiago; Helene Strobel; Irene Stone; Karen Brill; Erika Budig; Vikki Duncan; Barbara Boyd; Loree Gold; Joan Dewhirst; Ralph Wilson
Museum Education Department: Patsy Hicks; Rachael Krieps.
Absent: None

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen called the meeting to order at 9:40. The Minutes of the Docent Board Meeting of January 9, 2019 were approved.

BOARD REPORTS:

President: Mary Ellen Hoffman

There were no matters to report.

Vice President: Mary Joyce Winder

Brief discussion of the upcoming bus trip to Pasadena. (See attached Vice President Report.)

Secretary: David Reichert

There were no matters to report.

Treasurer: Patty Santiago

Patty reported very little activity in the past month. Two Square transactions (payments for bus trip) were made; the checking and savings accounts drew interest.

Discussion was had of a donation made for the Community Speakers Program; a check for \$200.00 was made out to the Museum. Ralph emphasized the point that the CSP has been treated like a separate entity, whereas it is an Adult Touring team under the Adult Teams Chair. The check is to be accepted into the Docent Council account.

(See attached Treasurer's Report.)

Membership: Helene Strobel

There are 57 active docents, 3 docents on leave of absence, and 35 sustaining docents.

The total hours reported through January 2019 are 8612 consisting of: 652 public touring hours and 7960 research hours.

Helene emphasized the importance of recording and submitting hours.

In conjunction with a docent's recuperation from surgery, the question of sending cards to docents recovering from medical issues, and thank-you notes to lecturers came up. Traditionally, it was observed, such was part of the Secretary job. I said that I would handle same going forward.

(See attached Membership Report)

Adult Teams: Irene Stone

Irene went over her report. She observed that the contemporary show coming up is "more unknowns than knowns" at this point. (See attached Adult Tours Report, and "Adult Tour Statistics" for January 2019.)

Student Teams: Karen Brill

Last month there were 7 tours for 196 students. Reminded the group that a forum on touring high school students would be held on February 20 following the Council meeting.
(See attached Student Teams Report)

Provisional Chairs: Erika Budig and Vikki Duncan

Erika has put together a list of regional museums and has placed calls to the heads of docent programs at those museums. Vikki had nothing further to report.
Ralph has done some recruiting on his own and sent names to Rachael.

Research: Barbara Boyd

Continuing to entertain the idea of a salon but having difficulty with logistics.

Webmaster: Loree Gold

Extended thanks from Mike Ramey and herself for the opportunity to present at the last Council meeting. Mary Ellen proposed that the webmasters present at the beginning of each Council year.

Evaluations: Joan Dewhirst

No written report this month. Joan observed that opportunities to evaluate student tours are coming up. She is looking forward to evaluating the new actives.

Past President/Nominations: Ralph Wilson

Ralph has surveyed the Board as to whether the members wish to continue in their jobs, or switch to new jobs. The Nominations Committee has begun meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mary Ellen opened discussion with the key question: Are we going to continue to send delegates to the National Docent Symposium?

Mary Ellen, Ralph, Gail Stichler, Kathryn Padgett and Paul Guido went to the Symposium in Montreal in 2017. In addition, Kathryn and Paul presented at the Cincinnati Symposium in 2015. Although the delegation enjoyed their visit to the city of Montreal, they were not impressed with that Symposium, especially as compared to Cincinnati.

Mary Ellen tossed out the question of whether continued official participation in the Symposium is worthwhile. That is why she had us look over the list of breakout sessions for the upcoming Washington DC Symposium (see attached).

Ralph observed that the quality of breakout sessions is mixed.

Patsy floated the notion of setting aside money for the President and VP to attend a conference for professional development (not necessarily the National Docent Symposium). Mary Ellen raised the idea of budgeting for same and deciding on an ad hoc basis. (The Council provides a stipend of \$1500 per person for the President and VP to attend NDS.)

Mary Ellen called for a vote on whether to send a delegation to NDS Washington. The vote was yes by an overwhelming margin. Mary Joyce (incoming President) and the VP (to be determined) will go. Up to four more docents may attend if they pay their own way.

NEW BUSINESS

We have a docent who has missed 4 meetings. Mary Ellen passed around copies of Bylaws §4.2 (Change of Status—Suspension or Termination)(See attached). The docent has not been in communication with Mary Ellen, Helene or Rachael, and has not requested LOA

status. Discussion was had of sending a letter to the docent presenting options and asking her to choose one.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Patsy Hicks

Information will follow about the Kehinde Wiley Equestrian Portrait to be installed in the Park Lobby.

Chris Kallmayer will be speaking on the Wiley at the March 20 meeting.

We will have speakers about the upcoming sculpture show; further info TBA.

Melinda Gandara will be speaking on February 20 about the new contemporary rotation.

T. C. Boyle, Geoff Dyer and Pico Iyer will be presenting at Parallel Stories.

Thinking about recruitment and the schedule of lectures: Should we go back to Thursday morning talks on topics more elementary than those presented at Thursday evening Art Matters? Might we want to open Docent Council lectures to the public at 10:30 following the Council business meetings? The curators would get public exposure and the public would get the chance to meet the curators. Discussion was had.

ADJOURNMENT: Mary Ellen Hoffman

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

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be March 13, 2019.

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