

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

Present: Mary Ellen Hoffman; Mary Joyce Winder; David Reichert; Patty Santiago; Helene Strobel; Irene Stone; Erika Budig; Vikki Duncan; Barbara Boyd; Loree Gold; Joan Dewhirst; Ralph Wilson
Museum Education Department: Patsy Hicks; Rachael Krieps.
Absent: Karen Brill

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Ralph called the meeting to order at 9:36. The Minutes of the Docent Board Meeting of February 13, 2019 were approved.

BOARD REPORTS:

President: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen went over her report. The office of Provisional Co-Chair needs to be filled for the upcoming year's Board. Due to family obligations Michi Ho requested Sustaining status and such was granted. (See attached President's Report.)

Vice President: Mary Joyce Winder

The March 4 bus trip to the Pasadena Museum of History was a success and well attended. (See attached Vice President Report.)

Secretary: David Reichert

I reported sending a thank-you card to Melinda Gandara for speaking at the last Council meeting. I will be unavoidably out of town for the April 10 Board meeting; Vikki Duncan will take the minutes.

Treasurer: Patty Santiago

A substantial number of deposits were made to the checking account, these being payments for the March bus trip. One withdrawal was made—reimbursing Helene for flowers. Discussion was had of Square's 3% charge for credit card transactions; we may wish to encourage payment by check.

(See attached Treasurer's Report.)

Membership: Helene Strobel

There are 56 active docents, 3 docents on Leave of Absence, and 36 sustaining docents (now including Michi).

The total hours reported through March 2019 are 10,308 consisting of: 774 Public Touring hours and 9534 Research hours.

(See attached Membership Report)

Adult Teams: Irene Stone

Irene went over her report (see attached Adult Tours Report and Adult Tour Statistics). Discussion was had of the difficulty recruiting docents for the summer Contemporary team. Irene sees the main problem as being the summer time frame (travel et alia). Currently the team has 3 members; Irene would like 5.

Student Tours: Karen Brill

Karen was absent, attending a function as part of her work on climate change. Mary Ellen read Karen's report. (See attached Student Teams Report)

Provisional Co-Chairs: Erika Budig and Vikki Duncan

Vikki had nothing in particular to report.

Erika observed that other museums have curators more involved with docents. Patsy feels that we have active curator involvement (Council lectures, exhibition walk-throughs).

According to Erika, every month or two, curators at certain other museums work with touring docents every month or two. Mary Ellen commented that Arroyo Hondo had had a terrible time recruiting docents. Most recently, they had a group of 29 prospective docents. This upturn was the result of multiple receptions for prospective docents and paid advertising.

Ralph said that we had 8 guests on the Pasadena bus trip. We should work on cultivating them. Ralph proposed that the Council pay for some advertising, given the ample reserves in the bank. The limited number of new docents is impacting the pool from which future board officers can be drawn.

Museum Report: Patsy Hicks (out of order due to her schedule)

A lot of information is now available about the "Salt and Silver" upcoming photography show and the recently opened sculpture show.

The Chris Kallmyer installation will be potentially tricky for groups; more information to follow.

The Family Resource Center is now geared to sculpture.

2 Japanese contemporary photographs have been added to the Ridley-Tree Gallery.

Susan Tai's print rotation is titled "Bamboo, Rock and Old Tree." A walk-through could be arranged if desired.

Kelly Almeida has been back in the Education Department on a part-time, short-term basis.

Discussion was had of the growing number of school requests to combine tours with art-making, science and mathematics—an interdisciplinary approach.

Research: Barbara Boyd

Barbara took copious notes at the High School Touring Forum last month; these will be published in La Muse.

When the Contemporary checklist comes out, Barbara will start researching the pieces.

Sarajum Quazi has volunteered to do research for the Council. She will work on sculptures in the current show.

(See attached Research Report.)

Webmaster: Loree Gold

Ralph proposed deleting old docent comments from the website. Loree will see to doing so.

Evaluations: Joan Dewhirst

Everyone evaluated this year has passed on the first try.

So many moving parts are involved in evaluations: ill docents, cancelled tours, et cetera.

To evaluate the New Actives [Class of 2018] on student touring had been a challenge due to the limited number of student tours held this year. Four of them on Patty Santiago's team were evaluated on March 12.

Past President/ Nominations: Ralph Wilson

Nominations close per Bylaws on March 15. The slate will be published in the April 1 La Muse and the election held at the April 3 Council meeting.

(See attached Nominations report.)

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion was had of the National Docent Symposium to be held in October in Washington, D.C. Online reservations open May 1, 2019.

Up to 4, **not** 6, delegates may attend: President, Vice President and 2 additional. Loree and Joan spoke. They wanted to attend, paying their own way. But they felt that it was proper to leave the slots open for broader Council interest.

Ralph said that the Board sponsors the President and VP. Discussion was had of how to assign the other two slots. Lottery emerged as the potential best solution. Further discussion was had of narrowing the pool to the outgoing and incoming Board. The Symposium is a leadership event; not a reason for a vacation. Agreement was reached to define the pool in this way.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT: Mary Ellen Hoffman

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be April 10, 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