

DOCENT COUNCIL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Date: November 13, 2019

Present: Mary Joyce Winder; Patty Santiago; David Reichert; Jeff Vitucci; Vikki Duncan; Teda Pilcher; Irene Stone; Joan Dewhirst; Gail Stichler; Mary Ellen Hoffman; Patsy Hicks (Museum); Michelle West (Museum)

Absent: Ralph Wilson; Sarajum Quazi; Pattie Firestone; Christine Holland

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Joyce Winder

Mary Joyce called the meeting to order at 9:35. The Minutes of the Docent Board Meeting of October 9, 2019 were approved.

BOARD REPORTS:

President: Mary Joyce Winder

A request from Karen Brill for LOA status (caring for mother) was approved.

Mary Joyce expressed her thanks to the Docent Council for providing partial funding to attend the National Docent Symposium in Washington, DC.

(See attached President Board Report)

Vice President: Patty Santiago

Echoed the appreciation for Council support for her attending the Symposium; called it "definitely worthwhile."

The Getty bus trip to see the Manet show has been rescheduled for December 3, departing 7:30 AM.

Invitations have gone out for the Holiday Party and RSVPs are coming in. Due to the number of Provisionals, they will be introduced by name only as opposed to brief bios.

(See attached Vice President's Report)

Secretary: David Reichert

I read my report (see attached).

Treasurer: Jeff Vitucci

Went over his report.

(See attached Treasurer's Report)

Membership: Pattie Firestone

Pattie was absent. Mary Joyce went over the report. Currently we have 53 Active Docents, 2 docents on Leave of Absence, 39 Sustaining Docents, and 22 Provisional Docents [this does not take into account 2 who recently departed for health reasons]

(See attached Membership Report)

Adult Teams: Vikki Duncan and Christine Holland

Vikki went over Christine's report. Christine does the summary and Vikki the scheduling.

Mary Joyce asked as to what a special request tour is. Patsy gave an example of a special request student tour; also observed that special request tours can be for either students or adults.

Two shows of recent acquisitions in contemporary art will be up next spring and early summer. One will be in Preston Morton and the other in Davidson. The shows are anticipated to open in April and to close at the end of July.

Discussion was had of possible changes to focus tours in light of exhibit and gallery changeovers. Patsy observed that not very much may be on view in September. Gail proposed

changing the name “Docent’s Choice” tours back to “Highlights,” as it is more reflective of public interest. There was informal (no vote) consensus for the change.
(See attached Adult Tour Report and Touring Statistics)

Student Tours: Teda Pilcher and Irene Stone

Teda went over their report. She inquired as to what differentiates a Museum Tour (MT) from a Special Request student tour (SR). Patsy explained that some of the tours are SR due to timing or to unusually large numbers. “Something not normally offered.” If an SR tour lands on a day for a regular touring team, and that team is not yet booked, that team will handle the SR.
Gail requested that an explanation of Special Request tours go into *La Muse*.
(See attached Student Tours Report)

Provisional Chairs: Ralph Wilson and Patty Santiago

Patty gave their oral report. (Ralph was in Luria, teaching the class.)
The Provisional Class currently stands at 20. Three of the incoming group have had to drop out, all for health reasons.
As the board meeting was going on, the provisional class was taking the Art Vocabulary Quiz. Three-minute talks are coming up and the provisionals are doing Object Worksheets. They have selected the artworks for their research papers.

Research: Sarajum Quazi

Absent. Mary Joyce read her report.
(See attached Research Chair Board Report)

Evaluations: Joan Dewhirst

Joan went over her report.
The one student tour evaluation was for a Class of 2018 docent who was not able to be evaluated until this year. Currently 10 Docents are due for student tour evaluations. A Third/ Fourth Tuesday tour was to have been evaluated; but the teacher had to reschedule to Wednesday. Loree Gold agreed to take the group on that day, Wednesday November 20.
(See attached Evaluations Chair Report)

Webmaster: Gail Stichler

Went over her report.
Discussion was had of curatorial choices to list some works with titles in foreign languages as well as English, but not others.
Gail is posting Board minutes and upcoming events. Web publication of events has to follow, not precede, announcement in *La Muse*.
(See attached Webmaster Report)

Past President/ Nominations: Mary Ellen Hoffman

Mary Ellen asked Patty (next year’s President), whom she would like to have as her VP. The VP has to be in place before the other Board slots are filled.

Museum Report: Patsy Hicks and Michelle West

No further solidification of the calendar has taken place beyond the two contemporary exhibitions.
When the Vincent van Gogh show opens, there may be “Louvre-like” crowds. Patsy has an idea of doing student tours in the pre-opening hours (between 9 and 11). She envisions that early hours may attract more teachers. There would be a cost for extra security for pre-opening groups.
Patsy anticipates school interest in “The Observable Universe” due to the science component. Michelle discussed possible telescope use in conjunction with the show.

Patsy threw out a request for Docents to give “three wishes.” In other words, what three works from the permanent collection would each Docent like to have on display. Mary Joyce will send out a letter to the whole Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gail commented that she and Joan had gone to the National Docent Symposium “on their own dime.” All four slots allocated to SBMA were consequently filled.

Patsy introduced the lightweight folding stools that had just arrived. There are fifty of them. A procedure will be worked out by which Docents can request them from Security, for guests who may not be comfortable standing at length.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT: Mary Joyce Winder

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

The next Docent Council Board Meeting will be on December 11, 2019 at 9:30.

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