

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes

October 17, 2018

Present: Diana Bolander, Amy Fricke-Weigel, Mike Halla, Amy Gehrig, Candice Giesen, Phil Hoff, Lori Kirby, Erin LaBonte, Patrick Neuenfeldt, Jeremiah Novak, Steve Proszenyak, Dolly Stokes, Greg Vadney, HaLeigh Zipperer

Absent: Carrie Estrella

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President Proszenyak at 12:06p.
2. Public Input
None
3. Minutes – President
Motion was made by Halla, seconded by Hoff, and unanimously approved by the board to accept the September minutes as written.
4. Review of Financial Accounts
No questions
5. President Report-Steven Proszenyak
 - a. Education Committee-Vadney
Did not meet.
 - b. Membership/Marketing Committee-Vadney
Met just prior to October Board meeting. Discussed uptick in social media presence. There was a note to schedule posts, as not to bombard. There was also discussion about using other avenues such as Instagram and Twitter to reach more demographics. A website refresh for 2019 was also discussed. There was discussion as to what the purpose of the website and who will be responsible for doing website updates. They discussed contracting a professional photographer to take photos of various annual exhibits and events, as well as permanent collection. Membership was also discussed, hoping to change to anniversary date in 2019. New membership potential membership perks were also discussed.
 - c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
Did not meet.
 - d. Public Arts Committee-LaBonte
Art Forward column still running bi-weekly. The Mirro fencing project is moving forward, hopeful for implementation in the spring. This is due to prolonging the life of the wrap, rather than having it up through winter. There was also discussion as to sustainable funding for the committee.
 - e. Development Committee-Vadney
Did not meet. Drawing is being processed in 3D. Vadney meeting with landscaper next week.

- f. Change in Date of November Board Meeting-Proszenyak
The November Board meeting will be moved to the 2nd Wednesday due to the 3rd Wednesday being the day before Thanksgiving and opening of Christmas in the Mansion.

6. Director Report- Vadney

The Holiday parade is taking place on Wednesday, November 21. The Rahr-West will once again host the Santa reception. Halloween in the Mansion is taking place on October 24 from 5:30-7:00p. All Board members are invited to participate, whether by attending or volunteering.

The 2019 Budget for the City of Manitowoc was introduced by the Mayor on Monday. There should be no major changes for the RWAM. Museum Maintenance Bob was nominated for a Star Award for his hard work for preparing for Sputnikfest. There will be some repairs to the fence and a banner pole that were damaged in a car accident. The driver's insurance should be covering full replacement of the fence and pole with matching materials. There was a dedication of the water feature with the Chermak family. There was also a memorial plaque that was ordered, but will be installed in spring, as the fountain has been winterized. Cabinet work in both the kitchen and classrooms has been completed. Friends may now be looking into possible new furniture for kitchen and lounge.

7. Rahr-West Friends Committee Report-Gehrig

The Tablesetting reception was successful. The Friends are now preparing for Christmas in the Mansion. The group met for a brainstorming brunch October 16. They came away with several ideas to move forward with various projects and have finalized three speakers for the 2019 Art of Conversation series.

The Friends have formed a subcommittee for the Gift Shoppe. They will be meeting to conduct a full inventory of current items. Fricke-Weigel inquired about monthly reports, which will be available.

8. Foundation Report-Vice President Mike Halla

The next quarterly meeting of the Foundation will take place on October 23. There was a review of the financial accounts. The save the date for the annual fundraiser went out. A lovely evening with Janet Planet will take place on Friday, February 8, 2019. Fricke-Weigel and Giesen stated that last year's event sold out. Board members are asked to attend or volunteer. A total of 176 tickets will be made available at \$75 each. They will be available for purchase online or in person beginning December 1.

9. Collection Report—Bolander

The collections committee met October 16 and went over the development plan. There are four objects that were recommended for accession by the committee.

The objects that were recommended for accessioning are:

Gary John Gresl, By the Sea, Assemblage
Johann Berthelsen, Wisconsin Woods, Painting
Johann Berthelsen, Favorite Toys, Painting
Johann Berthelsen, Pauper's Drive, Painting

A motion to approve accessioning all of the pieces was made by LaBonte, seconded by Fricke-Weigel and unanimously approved.

10. Old Business

Vadney and Prosenyak thanked the Friends for all their hard work with all the events and various projects going on.

Hoff inquired as to whether there was any movement with being able to offer wine/beer with the Friday night classes. Vadney stated that there has not been any additional discussion with the attorney's office; however, there has been discussion about potentially holding class at a establishment that could serve alcohol. LaBonte commented that this would take away from bringing people into the museum.

There was also discussion regarding the City's new donation policy, which was passed by Council in August. This policy limits the ability for the museum to accept gifts of art, due to the various channels approval must go through. Novak stated policy was needed as some donations were being accepted and costing the city. There are discussions about drafting amendments to this policy for the RWAM, among other specific departments.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by Neuenfeldt, seconded by Novak, and unanimously approved by the board to adjourn at 12:47p.

Submitted by Melissa Franz, Administrative Support Specialist