

Present: Meg Bollinger, Candice Giesen, Mike Halla, Phil Hoff, Lori Kirby, Erin LaBonte, Adam Lovell, Jeanie Miller, Patrick Neuenfeldt, Steve Proszenyak, Dolly Stokes, Greg Vadney, Amy Fricke-Weigel

Absent: Carrie Estrella, Rhienna Gabriel

Meeting was called to order by President Proszenyak at 12:00

Public Input
none

Minutes

Motion was made by Fricke-Weigel, seconded by Miller and unanimously approved by the board to accept the October minutes as written.

Reviewed Financial Accounts

President Report

Education Committee

- Educator Opening
Michelle Heraly-Bonde will be the replacement for Amy Zander.
She will be continuing Clay classes for adults and children, as well as specialty classes in 2018
- Art of Conversation Series
Need to lock-in a few dates & times
February – David Martin – Martin Pottery
April – Kathy Svec – Shadow Box Art
May – Gram Reid – Curator at MOWA
June – Modern Art Printing – Speaker from Chicago
July – Hamilton Wood Type Museum – Print Demonstration
October – Patrick Burke
December – Jodi Poole-Zeier – Quilter
- Halloween
520 in attendance – Twice as many as last year
Need to figure out some way we could get funding for this event, like raffles, etc.
It was suggested this be used as a marketing event for our classes and rentals.
 - handouts should be made available

Membership-Marketing Committee

- Marketing
Need to have our digital files cleaned up and Marketing templates created.
Possibly use our Professional Services budget line to pay for a graphic design person.
Fricke Printing will download their high resolution museum files for our use.
- Membership
Would like to form a committee to investigate going back to anniversary date versus calendar date for renewals.

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Will meet on November 27th

Public Arts Committee – Erin LaBonte

- Working on structure, mission/vision and goals.

- Plan to invite community members to join this committee.
- Discussed a few possible projects
- Still in the developmental stages. Will have more details at December Meeting.

Development – Steve Proszenyak

- Discussed outdoor projects
 - Regrading/irrigation/signage/artwork
- Discussed possible funding avenues
- Candice Giesen will be joining this committee
- Next meeting is 11-27-17 at 1:00 pm

Administrative Support Specialist Position

- So far there have been 39 applicants
- Interviewing will begin the week after Thanksgiving
- Will make offer December 1st
- Would like the individual to start no later than December 18th
- The city will allow an overlap provided the Museum provides the additional funding.
 - A motion was made by Halla, seconded by Stokes and unanimously approved by the board to take money from the underspent Part Time Security Guard fund and the Underspent Speaker Series fund to support 20 days of overlap for the Administrative Position.
- Invited board members to participate in the selection process provided they can commit to all the interviews. Vadney will send out an email when he has the interviews set up.

Director Report-Greg Vadney

Exhibits/Events

- There were over 100 attendees at the public Tiny Art Exhibit opening
- Christmas in the Mansion opens November 22nd with the Holiday Parade Santa Reception
- UW Faculty Art opens December 3rd
- Evergleem will have aluminum Trees in the Ruth West through November 26th. This exhibit will extend to the Porte Cochere, where those trees will remain on display until January 7, 2018

2018 City Budget

- Goes to the council on November 20th
- Maintenance position is included in the budget proposal
- Our operating budget stays pretty much the same except for personnel costs

WI Federation of Museums

- Vadney gave an overview of the WFM Convention on November 6, where he spoke on Museum Advocacy.
- 96 Museum professionals attended
- Great opportunity to reach out to political officials
- Highlighted some of the issues museums have with private/public funding.
 - Changes in tax deductions for donations to non-profits
 - Public funding has been cut drastically
- Was also able to meet with marketing consultants as well as staff from WI Historical Society and MOWA
- Attended a valuable session on teaching in an art museum to non-art students.
- Networked with Haggerty Art Museum – Marquette University

Rahr-West Friends Advisory Committee – Jeanie Miller

- Membership is currently at 311
 - Vadney explained this was 311 households
- Met with Jim Konitzer. He will prepare an estimate as to the cost of removing wall paper and painting the mansion kitchen.
- The Friends will wait until after the holidays to price a new refrigerator for the mansion kitchen

Foundation Report – Mike Halla

- Reviewed Financials
- Met on October 24th and reviewed 2017 income and expenses
- Reminded board of the February 9, 2017 Janet Planet Fundraiser
 - Members can purchase tickets starting December 1st
- The Annual Appeal will go out the end of this month.
- Still accepting quotes on the storage units for the classroom
- Tabled the discussion on the 5% contribution to the Administrative Position

Collection Report – Adam Lovell

- Five paintings were approved for acquisition
 - 2 Johann Berthelsen “New York” paintings donated by Lee Berthelsen
 - 2 Ruth Vinton paintings, 1 oil & 1 watercolor, donated by Rick Gill
 - 1 Pastoral painting donated by Dennis Rocheleau
- Exhibit Labels
Lovell described the new labels for the permanent collection pieces and passed around sample. These will be created as new pieces are displayed
- Exhibit Display improvements
 - Pedestals are in poor condition and are very heavy
 - Need to replace outdated hanging hardware
 - Would like to use a more permanent material for the new labels
 - Discussed possible revenue generating activities to cover the above costs

Public Arts Commission

Gabriel will be researching statute legalities regarding public arts and policy making with Representative Ron Tusler on December 6th.

Old Business

Miller asked the status of the fountain for the courtyard. Nothing has been finalized at this time.

A motion was made by Halla, seconded by Miller and unanimously approved by the board to adjourn at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Schroeder