

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
April 18, 2018

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

Absent: Meg Bollinger, Carrie Estrella, Rhienna Gabriel, Lori Kirby

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Proszenyak at 12:02p.

2. Public Input

None

3. Minutes – President

Motion was made by Miller, seconded by Halla and unanimously approved by the board to accept the March minutes as written.

4. Review of Financial Accounts

No questions.

5. President Report-Steven Proszenyak

a. Education Committee - Vadney

Education Committee met April 12. They discussed the education schedule and further discussed bringing in contracted artists to teach evening/weekend classes and workshops. This new format is planned to begin in the fall, with hopes to encourage participation from those who cannot attend daytime classes. The group created a draft survey for all education participants. The summer youth fieldtrip to Bookworm Gardens is set to go June 21. Ticket sales for the Great Spirit Comedy Festival are going well. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Rahr-West education. The committee has changed their meeting schedule to the 2nd Friday of each month at noon.

b. Membership/Marketing Committee

Did not meet.

c. Buildings & Grounds Committee

Did not meet, will meet April 30.

d. Public Arts Committee - LaBonte

The Public Arts Committee met April 12. They are currently working on two projects; a mesh fence wrap for the fence around the old Mirro site on Washington Street, and a digital arts projection on the Milwaukee PC building. Both projects are designed to be temporary. The fence wrap project is moving forward and ready to begin with fundraising. LaBonte will be drafting a fundraising letter. There will be collaboration with local businesses, community members, and students on this project, which will be depicting silhouettes of grade-school aged children. Several attempts to reach out to the owner of the Milwaukee PC for the digital projection have been unsuccessful.

e. Development Committee - Prozenyak

Did not meet. Landscape designs will be received week of April 23. A meeting will be scheduled at that time.

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f. Potential New Board Members

There are two new prospects for Board members. One is member of the Friends Committee and the other is a member of the Young Professionals group.

6. Director Report-Greg Vadney

An offer was made and accepted for the Assistant Director/Curator Position. The individual has a background in the arts and has museum experience. They also have a background with collections management. The anticipated start date as at the end of May. Interviews for the open Security Guard position are anticipated to take place the week of April 23.

Vadney attended a summit of Wisconsin Art Museum Directors in early April. The group discussed issues affecting museums, this includes diversity in the field and hiring and training staff. They also discussed the impact of arts and culture on tourism, with concentration on opportunities to developing a marketing campaign that will highlight Wisconsin's art treasures.

There was discussion regarding combining various committees. This will make for more efficient scheduling. Neuenfeldt and Proszenyak agreed that it can be difficult to attend some meetings. Vadney and Proszenyak will develop a proposal to present to the Board.

There was discussion regarding loaning out the Chagall exhibit. There is a tentative loan for Summer 2019, with another prospect for Winter 2020.

7. Rahr-West Friends Committee Report-Miller

Flooring for the kitchen has been chosen and the group will begin with paint selection. A painter has been selected for the kitchen. He is set to begin working the week of July 9. Fricke-Weigel mentioned that the funding for the kitchen renovation needs to be approved. This will be put together for vote at the next Board meeting. The Committee has planned their annual bus trip for August 2 and will be going to Door County. There was a reminder of the Kathy Svec Art of Conversation, which will take place on April 19 at 1pm.

8. Foundation Report-Vice President Mike Halla

There was a review of Foundation financials. The Foundation Board will meet April 24 for their quarterly meeting.

9. Collection Report

No Report

10. Old Business

Hoff inquired as to whether there has been any movement with the status of liquor licensing. Vadney indicated that there has not.

11. Adjourn

A motion was made by Fricke-Weigel, seconded by Giesen, and unanimously approved by the board to adjourn at 12:47p.

Submitted by Melissa Franz, Administrative Support Specialist