

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
June 20, 2018

Present: Diana Bolander, Candice Giesen, Mike Halla, Phil Hoff, Erin LaBonte, Steve Proszenyak, Dolly Stokes, Greg Vadney, Amy Fricke-Weigel

Absent: Carrie Estrella, Lori Kirby, Patrick Neuenfeldt

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Proszenyak at 12:00p.

2. Public Input

Rhienna Gabriel attended the meeting as a community member. She plans on continuing her work on public arts projects that are in the works.

Daniel Kennedy also attended the meeting and indicated his interest on serving as a board member.

3. Minutes – President

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

4. Review of Financial Accounts

No questions

5. President Report-Steven Prozenyak

a. Education Committee - Vadney

Did not meet.

b. Membership/Marketing Committee - Vadney

Met June 19 and discussed member retention issue. New membership appears to be steady throughout the years. They group discussed the various membership levels and perks of each to provide more benefits of membership. There was also discussion about the renewal process and potentially changing to anniversary date. This would spread out mailings for membership & annual appeal. There is also need to communicate that online membership renewal is available. Summer exhibits were also discussed.

c. Buildings & Grounds Committee - Vadney

Met June 12 and discussed kitchen renovation. The cost of asbestos abatement for the floor is still not clear. Wallpaper removal and painting is scheduled to begin week of July 16. Braun Building Center came to look at cabinet work that needs to be done in the kitchen. They also discussed the courtyard and front landscape projects. A water feature was ordered for the Chermak memorial. This will be installed in the courtyard, with a tentative dedication at the end of summer. Proposed drawings for the front landscape project have been received. The project is not as extensive as originally thought.

d. Public Arts Committee – LaBonte

Committee met June 6. Brandon Reid, HTR Editor attended the meeting and would like to have a weekly arts column focusing on the Rahr-West in the paper's weekend edition. This will be further discussed at the next meeting, in terms of dividing the duties. The Mirro fence project is moving forward. A group of kids was outlined at a program at the museum. There will be another group coming in July. A funding letter will be drafted and will be

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes

June 20, 2018

going out. There was also discussion of a \$1000 grant available through Wisconsin Public Service. It is believed this project may be a good fit for the project. The committee is also looking for sustainable funding options. The next meeting is scheduled for June 27 at 9am.

- e. Development Committee – Vadney
Did not meet. A meeting will be scheduled to determine how to use the landscape drawings to raise funds for the project in the front yard of the mansion.

6. Director Report-Greg Vadney

The Modern Masters exhibit is open. One print did fall during installation and the frame sustained some damage. Reading Public Museum was contacted and the piece will be sent back to them after the exhibit. Artwork for the Rahr-West collection was subbed in. R.T. Wallen: Naturally exhibit will open on July 1, with a public reception. The exhibit will feature maquettes of Wallen's work, including Spirit of the Rivers. It will also feature stone lithography and native art. The museum's hours will be extended to 6pm on the September 16, which is when the unveiling of the Spirit of the Rivers will take place. Really Big Prints will open on July 22. There will also be an Art of Conversation with the Hamilton Wood Type Museum on July 26.

The security guard position is still open. Four applications have been received. Interviews will be scheduled soon.

Vadney has been working on exhibits for 2019/2020. The Naval Art of Thomas Hart Benton will be on exhibit May – September 2019. A Charles Dixon & Doris White exhibit is planned for summer 2019. Both are Wisconsin artists. The Rahr-West does have some in its collection, but some may be loaned from other Wisconsin museums. Vadney has been working with various organizations to have an exhibit focused on the Hmong heritage. There have also been discussion with Joan Emmet, a longtime County Artist participant to hold a solo exhibition. Joan's focus is on steampunk, fantasy, and found objects. There has also been some discussion about a potential PostSecret exhibit for 2019. There have been discussions with the G.W. Bush Presidential Library regarding a series of wounded warriors portraits painted the former president. The library would like this to be a traveling exhibit and is working out the details.

The Rahr-West will be working the children's education area at Subfest July 14 & 15. The Wacky Weekend Workshop will be held at Subfest, as well as various other activities. Volunteers are needed in two hour time blocks.

7. Rahr-West Friends Committee Report – Vadney

The Friends group did not meet in June. The bus trip planned for Door County on July 24 filled very quickly and a waitlist has started. Non-members have not been able to sign up for the trip. It was mentioned that trip participation be included on the membership benefits. Amy Gehrig mentioned that members only receptions are poorly attended. The group plans to discuss how to encourage member participation at events and receptions. Hoff suggested adding members only events on Facebook, which may encourage others to become members.

8. Foundation Report-Vice President Mike Halla

Foundation financial accounts were reviewed. The next Foundation Board meeting will be held in July.

9. Collection Report

No report at this time.

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
June 20, 2018

10. Old Business

Hoff inquired as to whether there was any movement regarding serving wine at cork and canvas. There have been discussions, but no movement forward.

It was noted that officer elections were left off the June agenda. These elections will be held at the July Board meeting.

11. Adjourn

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

Submitted by Melissa Franz, Administrative Support Specialist