

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
October 21, 2020

Present: Diana Bolander, Carrie Estrella, Amy Fricke-Weigel, Amy Gehrig, Candice Giesen, Courtney Hansen, Phil Hoff, Erin LaBonte, Larry Shimon, Greg Vadney, Patricia Zimmerman, HaLeigh Zipperer

Absent: Dolly Stokes

1. Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by President Fricke-Weigel at 12:04pm.
2. Public Input
None
3. Minutes – President
Motion was made by Giesen, seconded by Hansen, and unanimously approved by the board to accept the September minutes as written.
4. Review of Financial Accounts
No questions
5. President Report- Fricke-Weigel
 - a. Education Committee—Vadney
Committee met and discussed the Art Bridges programming and grant receipt for technology to aide with online programming. They discussed 2021 exhibits and how to incorporate the exhibits with classes. They also discussed the Art of Conversation and potential speakers for 2021, although no formal plan is in place yet.
 - b. Membership/Marketing Committee—Fricke-Weigel
Did not meet, next meeting scheduled for November 9. There was discussion about a “COVID-19 Appeal”.
 - c. Buildings & Grounds Committee
Did not meet.
 - d. Public Arts Committee—Bolander
Did not meet.
 - e. Development Committee—Fricke-Weigel
Committee did meet and discussed the elevator project and capital campaign to tie in with the front yard project. Sputnikfest will be run through the Development Committee, in conjunction with Art Slam, which will provide more structure for the event.
 - f. Strategic Plan Update—Fricke-Weigel
Strategic initiatives were received from all committees except Education. Vadney stated that initiatives were completed by the Education Committee and he will send them following the Board meeting. The Board will review and vote on initiatives at the November meeting to move forward with implementation.
 - g. Board Member Openings—Fricke-Weigel

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
October 21, 2020

Two current Board vacancies. Fricke-Weigel asked for recommendations for potential members, but none were received. Vadney stated that there were several inquiries and they were directed to the Mayor's office. Would like to review candidates at November meeting and vote to fill vacancies at the December meeting.

h. Vote Vice President—Fricke-Weigel

The Board was asked for nominations for the Vice President position vacated by Kirby. No Board members were nominated or expressed interest in filling the position.

i. Board Members for 2021—Fricke-Weigel

Three board positions will come open in June 2021 due to term limitations. Board members were reminded to continue seeking potential members.

6. Rahr-West Friends Committee Report—Gehrig

The Friends Committee met October 14 at a remote location. They discussed the Christmas in the Mansion receptions and options to safely hold the event. After discussion with Stangel, Vadney, and Franz, it was decided to hold the event on Monday, December 7 with one hour long time blocks, limiting the number of people in each. This will allow for safe social distancing and sanitizing between groups. The Tablesetting reception followed a similar plan and went very well.

Face masks for members with an image of "Late for a Date" were discussed. Artist permission was granted to use the image. The cost is \$6.50 per mask, with a set-up fee. The Friends are asking for \$1995 to order 300 masks to be distributed to members at the museum (one per household), with extra masks being sold in the Shoppe. The Friends did not have many receptions or a bus trip this year and this amount is offset by that. There was discussion amongst the Board about the purchase and distribution of the masks.

A motion to approve \$1995 to purchase the masks was made by Zimmerman, seconded by Hansen, and unanimously approved by the Board.

There was extensive discussion on setting a limit for the Friends spending on events, etc. Fricke-Weigel explained that the Board has an obligation to the City and members of the museum to provide oversight and that documentation of processes is important. A budget of \$2000 was proposed and there was extensive discussion about this budget. Vadney did mention that there is oversight of all spending, as it all goes through three channels (Admin, Director, Finance) for approval. The current amount allowed is \$500 per event without approval. Smaller events/receptions fall far below this amount. Having the Friends create a projected budget for 2021 was discussed for review at the November meeting. Fricke-Weigel will attend the November Friends meeting to discuss the importance of the budget/oversight. This vote for this was tabled until further review.

7. Collection Report—Bolander

Collection Committee met, but had very low attendance. They discussed adjusting the Collections Long Range plan.

8. Foundation Report—Fricke-Weigel

Reviewed financial accounts. The Foundation will be meeting October 27 and will be discussing the Annual Appeal and the 2021 Gala.

9. Director's Report—Vadney

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
October 21, 2020

The museum closed temporarily on October 19. City leaders will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation to determine a date for safely reopening.

The Tablesetting exhibit has been extended to November 22. Vadney and Bolander are working with Vagabond on creating digital programming. There will be a live stream this Friday with Sonia Vasquez painting for the Portrait of Manitowoc Project. A livestream for the Tablesetting video will be done on November 1. The opening reception for Tablesettings went very well.

Mayor Nickels took the Executive Budget to Council on October 19. The budget for the museum is virtually unchanged from what was requested.

The elevator project is ongoing. The timeline was discussed with the project going out for bid in March 2021, work starting in summer 2021. Work will take approximately 5-6 months with a plan for the elevator to be fully operational in January 2022.

Buildings and Grounds is in the process of interviewing for the maintenance/custodian position, which is budgeted for four hours daily at the Rahr. Current custodian is off during our temporary closure. The fence panel has been reinstalled and the light post replaced. Museum signage will be replaced soon.

10. Old Business
None

11. Adjourn
A motion was made by Gehrig, seconded by Giesen, and unanimously approved by the board to adjourn at 1:04pm.

Submitted by Melissa Franz, Administrative Support Specialist