

Rahr-West Art Museum
Board of Director Minutes
May 15, 2019

Present: Diana Bolander, Carrie Estrella, Amy Fricke-Weigel, Mike Halla, Amy Gehrig, Candice Giesen, Phil Hoff, Lori Kirby, Erin LaBonte, Steve Proszenyak, Dolly Stokes

Absent: Patrick Neuenfeldt, Jeremiah Novak, Greg Vadney, HaLeigh Zipperer

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Proszenyak at 11:59 am

2. Public Input

None

3. Minutes – President

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

4. Review of Financial Accounts

No questions

5. President Report-Steven Prozenyak

a. Education Committee—Bolander

Discussed summer programming. Working with local artists on planning workshops. H. Nelson also provided updates regarding the SPARK programming. The Education Committee will begin meeting on the 2nd Friday of each month.

b. Membership/Marketing Committee—Fricke-Weigel

Fricke-Weigel expanded upon the marketing committee's plan to distribute 8x10 prints to members. D. Stokes was consulted and gave approval to use a Ron Stokes painting for the first print. It is important that these are quality prints. Vadney will attend the July 15 meeting to discuss the 2020 marketing plan with the committee.

c. Buildings & Grounds Committee

Did not meet.

d. Public Arts Committee—LaBonte

The Art Forward "Hop, Skip, Jump into our Future" article was printed in the Herald Times Reporter today. The next Public Arts Committee meeting will be held at Brian's Smokehouse to discuss dedication of the fence wrap at the Mirro site.

e. Development Committee—Proszenyak

Met May 14 and reviewed signage proposals for the front yard. They also reviewed fundraising documents.

f. Election of Board Officers

The following Board Officers were elected and unanimously approved:

Board President: Steven Proszenyak

Board Vice President: Dolly Stokes

Board Secretary: Lori Kirby

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- g. Request for waiver of fees for Lighthouse Recovery Center Rental
There was discussion of the fee waiver request for Lighthouse Recovery Center and fee waiver request process. There is question as to why the Rahr-West does not go through the same channels as the DPI. The decision for rental requests to go through the RWAM Board was made in 2016.

Halla made a motion to deny facility fee waivers for any and all groups. This was seconded by Fricke-Weigel.

6. Director Report-Proszenyak (in place of Vadney)
Chagall's LeCirque series will be on loan to the Milwaukee Jewish Museum June 13-September 8, 2019. Museum staff is currently getting the exhibition ready to ship.

The new lounge furniture has been purchased and installed. It is all modular and therefore more functional.

Museum staff identified a need for an updated front office, including ADA height counters and more efficient workspace. The RWAMCF approved half the cost, or up to \$21,000 for renovations, provided the City's Capital Allocation Working Group approves the other half for the 2020 budget.

There was also a reminder that there are two vacant seats on the Board. Vadney and Proszenyak have been in contact with several potential Board members. Any interested individuals should submit their candidacy via the Mayor's page on the city's website.

Proszenyak thanked Halla and presented him with a certificate of appreciation for serving on the RWAM Board for the past several years. Halla will still be involved with the museum in his capacity as RWAMCF President. Neuenfeldt, who was not at the meeting, will also remain involved by participating on the collections committee.

7. Rahr-West Friends Committee Report-Gehrig
There was a very large turnout for the Button discussion in April. The Tea scheduled for Saturday, May 18 is also sold out.

The Friends committee has concerns regarding the Marketing Committee's plan to issue a print featuring an image of the collection to all members. Although the concerns are many, they feel that this will diminish the uniqueness of the collection. They would prefer to see more focus on the reciprocal memberships. It was also suggested that membership should be focused on during the Youth Art Series, when many families visit the museum.

There was also concern regarding the new format of the various committee meetings, which do not always involve staff members.

Fricke-Weigel stated that she does report back to Vadney. The Marketing Committee has certain tasks to complete by year end. The artwork is meant to be a "thank you" to members and a token of appreciation.

8. Foundation Report-Vice President Mike Halla

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The Foundation Board met in April. They agreed to match up to \$21,000 for front office renovations if the City approves the plan for their 2020 budget.

9. Collection Report—Bolander
Did not meet.

10. Old Business
None

11. Adjourn
A motion was made by Estrella, seconded by Gehrig, and unanimously approved by the board to adjourn at 12:28 pm.

Submitted by Melissa Franz, Administrative Support Specialist