



City of Arts & Innovation

Metropolitan Museum Board

TO: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM BOARD **DATE: FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

FROM: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: HARADA HOUSE PROJECT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING HARADA HOUSE AND ROBINSON HOUSE

ISSUE:

Receive and review recommendations from the Harada House Project Committee regarding Robinson House and Harada House.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Metropolitan Museum Board receive and review recommendations from the Harada House Project Committee regarding Robinson House and Harada House.

BACKGROUND:

The Harada House Project Committee (Committee) is a sub-committee of the Metropolitan Museum Board (Board) to advise the Board on items related to the Harada House.

DISCUSSION:

At their December 15, 2017 meeting, the Committee referred the items below to the Board for consideration. The Board received these recommendations at their January 10, 2018 meeting. Staff has evaluated the Committee's recommendations and is providing the following response:

1. **Committee recommendation:** Enhance the public presence of the Robinson House. Requested immediate structural modifications of conference room, ADA access and facilities.

Staff response: Currently there are no funds available for the Robinson House, although staff is making it a continuing request of the City's Capital Improvement Program project funding. Staff is requesting additional information from the Board on what type of public presence they would like to see for the Robinson House and what structural modifications are recommended.

2. **Committee recommendation:** Bring back a fulltime caretaker for the Harada House. Robinson House could be used as a conference center and caretaker residence. Long-term plan recommendation is to have a caretaker residence in a separate structure.

Staff response: Staff does not believe a caretaker is necessary right now. The need for a caretaker will be analyzed in the future in addition to an augmented alarm system.

3. **Committee recommendation:** Include a line item in the Museum's FY 2018/19 and FY 2019/20 budget for Robinson House projects such as structural modifications, HVAC, and ADA requirements.

Staff response: There is no funding available in the Museum's budget FY 2018/19 and FY 2019/20 budget for Robinson House projects.

4. **Committee recommendation:** An experienced historic preservation Architect of Record is necessary to oversee the entire Harada House project.

Staff response: The Architect of Record for the Harada House will be addressed in an upcoming Harada House update to the Board.

5. **Committee recommendation:** In the fundraising for the Robinson House, donors of \$10,000 or more were identified as "Founding Donors." These donors were to be recognized by signage.

Staff response: Staff has not yet found written documentation of specific commitments made to donors by the Museum regarding the Robinson House. However, the Museum will proceed to recognize donors of \$10,000 or more in an appropriate and respectful manner.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the review of these recommendations. Implementation of these recommendations will have a fiscal impact that will be determined once the decision to proceed has been made.

Prepared by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Metropolitan Museum Board Report – Harada House Update – October 11, 2017
2. Metropolitan Museum Board Report - Board Item Topics - December 13, 2017
3. Harada Project Committee Meeting Minutes - December 15, 2017
4. City Council Report – Robinson House Purchase - January 28, 2014