

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM BOARD MINUTES

July 11, 2018

Riverside Metropolitan Museum

3580 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA 92501

Board Members Present

Mary Hughes, Chair
Todd Carpenter, Vice-Chair
Peggy Barnhart
Dawn Gleason
Bergis Jules
Rose Monge
Lovelyn Razzouk
Chuck Wilson

City Staff Present

Robyn G. Peterson, Museum Director
Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Ann Lovell, Manager of Operations
Brenda Focht, Museum Curator
Toni Kinsman, Senior Office Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT – no public comment.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Board Chair Report

Board Chair Hughes announced that the Museum Board will host a Welcome Reception for new Museum Director Robyn G. Peterson at MezCal on Friday evening.

3. Riverside Museum Associates (RMA)

Robin Whittington will officially start as RMA President tomorrow.

4. Harada House Foundation

Elio Palacios thanked City staff for the invitation to give an update to the Museum Board on Harada House Foundation (HHF) activities. The HHF is now an official 501(c)(3) organization with tax-exempt status. Members of the HHF board recently met with City Manager Al Zelinka and Assistant City Manager Lea Deesing. The HHF is dedicated to fundraising for Harada House. The current board officers are Chuck Wilson (Chair), Elio Palacios (Vice-Chair), Lauren Bricker (Secretary), and Nancy Takano (Treasurer). Two additional board members are Naomi Harada and Jane Block. A development group within the HHF is currently being formed. Any recommendations should be passed along to Elio Palacios. Members of the HHF development group ideally will be individuals with community influence or charitable giving capacity. A goal is to connect with local businesses. Preservation architect Wayne Donaldson gave his advice on the April 2018 Harada House structural report.

5. Director's update regarding administration and budget, staffing, collections, facilities, main museum renovation, exhibitions and programs, and community engagement

In addition to the written report, Director Peterson reported that the American Alliance of Museums Accreditation Commission met on June 27th and 28th and the Museum expects a response soon regarding its pending re-accreditation application. The Heritage House fumigation was postponed and is currently pending for the week of August 13, 2018. Fumigation of the Robinson House took place the end of June. The re-opening of the Heritage House is still set for Friday, September 7, 2018. The City Attorney's office is working on a draft MOU between the Museum department and the Harada House Foundation. Director Peterson will be submitting an application for Harada House for State of California Historical Landmark status. The donor sign for the Robinson House fundraising campaign is being fabricated and will soon be installed. The siding from the Harada House and Harada House garage will be moved from the Robinson House property to the rented offsite warehouse. The Museum is waiting for news from Human Resources before it can release a start date for the new Curator of Historic Structures. The position of Curator of Natural History will be posted on the City website.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION CALENDAR

6. Approval of minutes for the meeting held on June 13, 2018

The minutes were approved as written.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: B. Jules

Abstain: M. Hughes

Ayes: C. Wilson, P. Barnhart, T. Carpenter, R. Monge, D. Gleason, L. Razzouk, B. Jules

7. Code of Ethics and Conduct Annual Review

A motion was made to accept the current Code of Ethics as written.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: R. Monge

Ayes: All

8. Determine whether Museum Board member absences for the June 13, 2018 Museum Board meeting should be recorded as excused or unexcused

The absence of Mary Hughes and Dawn Gleason were motioned as excused.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Abstain: M. Hughes

Ayes: C. Wilson, P. Barnhart, T. Carpenter, R. Monge, D. Gleason, L. Razzouk, B. Jules

9. Discuss reorganization and assignments for Metropolitan Museum Board Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees

Budget/Development Committee—T. Carpenter is the only Board representative. Future committee reports will focus on special projects and grants versus the operational budget. A. Lovell will serve as the staff liaison.

Nominating Committee—P. Barnhart volunteered to chair the committee. No other Board members volunteered at this time. This item will be reviewed again at the August Board meeting. Director Peterson will serve as the staff liaison. The Museum will check with the City Attorney's office on the language for periodic self-evaluations of the Board, noted among the examples of Nominating Committee duties.

Harada House Project Committee—Committee Chair C. Wilson requested that the following item be removed under duties: *Assist to ensure the financial sustainability of the site through proactive fundraising initiatives*. This duty is now the sole focus of the Harada House Foundation.

A motion was made to approve the above reorganization as amended.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: D. Gleason

Ayes: All

10. Deaccession of A1674-1, Edmund Jaeger's 1969 Jeep Wagoneer

A motion was made to approve the deaccession.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Ayes: All

11. Deaccession of A1123-1, a 429-carat precious opal

A motion was made to approve the deaccession.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Ayes: All

12. Deaccession of a late 19th-Century water wagon, A1709-1

A motion was made to approve the deaccession.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Ayes: All

13. Deaccession of five objects loaned to the Idyllwild Nature Center: P58-372, A125-114, A280-2, A733-17, & O660

A motion was made to approve the deaccession.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Ayes: All

14. Deaccession of six star sapphires, A1307-1 through A1307-6

A motion was made to approve the deaccession.

Motion: C. Wilson

Second: P. Barnhart

Ayes: All

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*written reports are requested for each Committee update*)

15. 2018-2020 Biennial Budget

A report was submitted for review as well as the current FY 18/19 and FY 19/20 Museum biennial budget.

16. Harada House Project Committee – Minutes from the June 2018 meeting were attached. No July meeting was held. The next meeting will be August 3, 2018.

BOARD MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

17. Brief reports on conferences, seminars, and meetings attended by Riverside Metropolitan Museum Board members – no updates

18. Items for future Riverside Metropolitan Museum Board consideration as requested by Board members.

The discussion item for reorganization and assignments for Metropolitan Museum Board standing, ad hoc committees, and staff committees will be reviewed again, allowing for changes or volunteers to come forward to serve on the Committees. D. Gleason volunteered to serve on the staff-level Collections Committee.

M. Hughes would like a status update on the Charter request to expand the Museum Board to 11 members.

19. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

The next regular Metropolitan Museum Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. in the Museum conference room