



Museum Board Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM BOARD **DATE: JULY 10, 2019**

FROM: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: REVISIONS TO STANDING RULES FOR METROPOLITAN MUSEUM BOARD, AND ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2.12 OF RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE MUSEUM NAME, MUSEUM BOARD DUTIES, AND NUMBER OF MUSEUM BOARD MEMBERS

ISSUE:

Approve revisions to the Standing Rules for the Metropolitan Museum Board as outlined in this report and included in Attachment 1, and recommend that City Council adopt an ordinance amending Riverside Municipal Code Chapter 2.12 in order to change the name of the Museum, Museum Board duties, and the number of Museum Board members.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Metropolitan Museum Board:

1. Approve revisions to the Standing Rules for the Metropolitan Museum Board as outlined in this report and included in Attachment 1;
2. Recommend that the City Council adopt an ordinance amending Riverside Municipal Code chapter 2.12 in order to change the name of the Museum, Museum Board duties, and the number of Museum Board members.

BACKGROUND:

The Museum of Riverside was established in 1924 with a donation to the City of Riverside of the cultural and anthropological collections of Nabisco magnate Cornelius Earle Rumsey. The City Council amended the City Charter in 1925 to establish a municipal museum. In accordance with Section 804 of the Riverside City Charter, the Metropolitan Museum Board (Board) established rules and regulations for its operation. In addition to being based in City Charter Section 800, the Standing Rules of the Board incorporate portions of the Riverside Municipal Code Section 2.12 pertaining to the Museum.

The Standing Rules of the Board have been amended on multiple occasions to adjust to evolving museum operational standards as well as City of Riverside concerns. Revisions occurred in 1982, 1996, 2006, and twice in 2015.

DISCUSSION:

On May 9, 2018, the Board approved proposed revisions, copyedits, and updates to its Standing Rules. These changes stemmed from considerations that included the desire or the need to:

1. Respond proactively to heightened public scrutiny of the conduct of public entities nationwide, as well as local public concerns regarding the future of the city asset embodied by the Museum;
2. Make explicit the Board’s intention to operate in compliance within the highest professional standards in support of the Museum;
3. Align thresholds for monetary gift review and acceptance with the donation acceptance policy contained within the City’s administrative manual;
4. Enhance engagement and communication with the community by adding two (2) Board members, thus expanding the Board to eleven (11) members;
5. Clarify or regularize language usage, and correct formatting or punctuation irregularities.

Since May 2018, there have been further minor copy editing and corrections to ensure conformity to other City of Riverside policies. Proposed revisions now also include incorporation of the new name of the Museum (“Museum of Riverside”), which was approved by City Council on April 23, 2019. Additionally, increasing the size of the Board by two (2) members requires a City ordinance.

The procedure for adopting an ordinance requires two (2) readings at two (2) separate City Council meetings followed by a waiting period of thirty (30) days. The ordinance and new Standing Rules will go into effect as of the date of the first Board meeting following the close of the thirty (30)-day waiting period.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by:	Robyn G. Peterson, Ph.D., Museum Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by:	Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Revised Standing Rules of the Metropolitan Museum Board
2. Ordinance of the City of Riverside, California, amending Chapter 2.12 of the Riverside Municipal Code
3. Minutes of the Metropolitan Museum Board for May 9, 2018