

City of Ontario
Ontario Museum of History & Art
Board of Trustees
Virtual Meeting - Zoom
February 23, 2021, 6:00 PM

Minutes

Call Meeting to Order:

Board President Chris Kueng called meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Board Members present were President Chris Kueng, Rick Caughman, Shannon Gerstheimer, Jerry Weems, and Randy del Turco. MA Liaison Leslie Sherwood-James, City Council Liaison Debra Dorst-Porada, Museum Director John Worden, Curator of Collections Michelle Sifuentes, Curator of Exhibitions Leslie Matamoros, and Curator of Education Anitra Bishop.

Additional: Community Life & Culture Executive Director, Helen McAlary.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of January 26, 2021 were approved on a motion by Rick Caughman and seconded by Shannon Gerstheimer. Caughman requested additional time to read board minutes in the future.

Public Comment

None

Staff Report

Staff Promotion

Museum Director John Worden announced the promotion of current part-time administrative intern, Samantha Herrera, to a full-time position as Assistant Curator, beginning March 1st, 2021.

Exhibitions

Worden provided exhibition updates. "Reflections" was physically taken down but still available on the museum website. "Art of Survival" available online February 25th through April 4th with its companion exhibit "Equal Justice Under the Law" by Leah Knecht. "11th Biennial Ontario Art Open" opens May 6th through June 20th limited to 75 artists and two entries each. The Prospectus is online only with deadline to register March 15th. Drop off dates April 7th through April 12th by appointment.

Program Updates

Worden provided programming highlights. Bidy Mason lecture with moderator David Allen and representatives of the Collaborative Bidy Mason Foundation on February 20th, 2021 went well, attributed to good promotion. Worden provided website visit statistics for current and previous months.

Collections Move

Worden specified that Sifuentes will cover this in the next board meeting.

Board Meetings

Worden informed that the City is moving towards providing broader city access of board meetings, which includes broadcasting on channel 3. This could mean moving meetings to City Hall which has broadcasting capabilities and changing meeting times and/or days of the week beginning April.

Council Member Debra Dorst-Porada would prefer to keep meetings at the Ontario Museum of History & Art. Caughman asked questions regarding the Museum's broadcasting capabilities. Community Life & Culture Executive Director Helen McAlary will invite IT representatives to the next meeting for clarification. Kueng inquired whether the meeting change is mandatory.

Built on Water Update

Worden emphasized BoW's four big picture questions driving the exhibit narrative:

1. Where does water come from?
2. Can you own water? Or who stole the water?
3. Do we have enough water?
4. Who are the water guardians?

Worden explained changes made from the original grant. A subcommittee will be meeting Friday, February 26 to brainstorm and go over details for the exhibit, Dorst-Porada, Caughman, Kueng, Worden, and the curatorial team.

Questions & Comments

Kueng: Where are we with year 1, 2, or 3 according to original the grant?

Worden: We're at year 2 going into year 3. The original timeline didn't account for what we would encounter. The original grant is not a good benchmark for the project now.

Kueng: Do we have to extend it?

Worden: Yes, now is the time for us to approach asking for an extension, they want us to wait until the final year of the project before we ask for an extension.

City Council Liaison

Dorst-Porada gave a synopsis of the projects she is currently a part of, including opposing SB-9 bill and collaborating with community college aviation programs and the Ontario Airport. Dorst-Porada mentioned a potential event with Chaffey Museum, Citizen Academy, Whispering Lakes, Convention Center grant, and Community Garden.

Old Business

None

New Business

Board Meeting Times

Kueng moved this item to the next meeting and would like to poll board members for best meeting times and availability to meet on different days of the week.

Museum Associates/Liaison Comments

None

Museum Board of Trustees Comments

Randy del Turco: "I really enjoyed our conversation about water and what we can expect from Built on Water. I see it as becoming a real educational exhibit, where you go to an exhibit of art and it's a feast for the eyes. You walk out really learning something and I thought that was cool. Let's keep it up. We're moving in the right direction."

Rick Caughman: "I want to thank everyone again for their comments and staff for all they do. I know it's not easy, especially when we throw another wrinkle in there as we go along. I really like the premise of the four questions and a call to action for Built on Water. I'd love to see what the answers to the questions will be. Thank you to everybody."

Chris Kueng: "I want to thank everybody for their work and due diligence to be a part of this great group of folks. John, thank you for the update on Built on Water and the key points. I really appreciate that. It's putting things in perspective much more clearly than it had been. I appreciate the staff and all the work that you do."

Future Agenda Items

Election of Board Officers

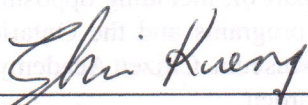
Board Consideration of New Meeting Time

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned in honor of Fenna Houghton who was an integral part of the Museum Associates and often participated in Museum events.

Motion to Adjourn by Rick Caughman, seconded by Randy del Turco, 7:32 PM.



3-23-2021

Signature