

Minutes
Honolulu Museum Docent Board 2012-2013
July 19, 2012
(Subject to final board approval)

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Education Lecture Hall, Honolulu Museum of Art

Present:

Co-President: Deb Nehmad

Vice President: Fred Smith

Secretary: Cindy Kelly

Treasurer: Laura Friedman

Hospitality Committee Co-Chairs: Pam Honbo and Lillian Chang

Docent Room/Research: Janet Hirata

Docent Symposium: Anne Miller, Mif Flaharty

Adopt-a-Gallery: Mif Flaharty

Special Projects: Cathy Levinson

Open Forum: Marilyn Smith

Japanese Speaking Docents: Sonoko Ota

Absent:

Jill Clapes (Co-President), Shirlee Beasley (Docent Room)

Others Present:

Director Docent Programs, Tours and new Docent training: Betsy Robb

Tour Scheduler: Jan Tucker

Curator of Education at Spalding House: Aaron Padilla

- I. **Call to order:** at 12:00 PM by Co-President Deb Nehmad.
- II. **Fred moved approval of minutes of meeting held June 7, 2012.**
- III. **Treasurer's Report: Laura Friedman**
 - Docent Council Funds as of 7/17/2012: \$12,578.61
 - As of 7/17/2012, dues still needed to be collected from 65 docents.
 - Discussion at future meetings as to what docents can provide Education Department with excess funds. *Full report attached to written minutes.*
- IV. **Open Forum: Marilyn Smith**
 - Reports increasing attendance (confirmed by Betsy).
 - Morning StARTers Tour: Concept is still developing, but there are more positive responses from both docents and visitors.
 - New tours beginning 8/22/12 at Spalding House (see Aaron's report at section VII).
 - Colonial America tour being revised (see Betsy's report at section VIII).
 - See attached report.*

V. Hospitality: Pam Honbo and Lillian Chang

-Thursday, December 13, 2012 is the date for the Christmas luncheon, location to be announced.

-Thursday, May 9, 2013 is the date for the spring luncheon, location to be announced.

-A pupu party is being organized for Inger Tully (who is leaving at the end of August), to be held on the lanai at Spalding House on 8/27/2012. Time to be announced.

VI. Communications: Fred Smith

-Mahalo to Betsy and Jan for the availability of online lectures, and encourage docent use.

-Docents can access the web site at: www.haaedu.org. Click on "Continuing Education" for access to lectures, tour information, the docent blog, etc.

-Everyone is encouraged to participate in the docent blog; feedback about what is working and not working about tours, training, art, etc. is very welcome.

-Calendar alerts are working well.

VII. Spalding House Programming: Aaron Padilla

-Art Spree mahalo; attendance was very good this year.

-Dramatic shift at Spalding House; focus will be primarily on education. The Education Committee establishes a theme and asks the curators to select works for the exhibition related to that theme. The objective is to curate exhibitions that integrate art and education, while still having exhibitions that will appeal to visitors of all ages.

-Two year plan, with six exhibits (three per year):

1. Literature: "1,000 Words and Counting", opens 8/22/2012
2. Math
3. Music
4. Social Studies
5. Science
6. Physical Education

Each exhibit will be divided into five galleries.

Per Betsy:

-A shift in objectives and focus for the tours:

-Engage the students with hands-on learning experiences within the tours.

- "How do kids learn on a tour?" - the desire is for them to take the experience /lesson with them through life.

-A new kind of educational experience for kids today: to learn about and appreciate art in an engaging and enjoyable way. Keep it fun!

-The wish is to cultivate interest and inspiration for all ages, as each visitor will have their own questions and relate individually to art.

-Training **tentatively** scheduled for 8/22/2012

VIII. Honolulu Museum of Art: Betsy Robb

-The 5 Initiatives and 3 Most Important Goals (per Stephan and the Board of Trustees) will be posted online.

-New docent training to begin January 2013.

-New gallery training will be scheduled as the galleries are re-hung.

-Colonial America tour is now titled: "Art and Life in Early America"
The tour will now be 3 hours long, with a 1 ½ hour tour offered on Wednesdays (which is a shorter school day).

Multiple perspectives have been added; the need to look at not just how the Puritans lived, but also Native Americans and slaves.

The first week in August will be training for spinning and weaving,
Training in the other galleries will be scheduled after.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cindy Kelly
Secretary

Attachment:

REPORT TO THE DOCENT BOARD ON THE OPEN FORUM MEETING

Docents profit from attendance at the monthly Open Forum where Betsy reviews tours and matters of interest to a brown-bag lunch bunch. The July 6 forum had 14 attendees and brisk and helpful dialog.

Morning Starters still draws mixed reviews from participants, both at the meeting and on site, but high praise from many. All yes, no and maybe comments are being considered. We will continue working with and on this concept. It is not for everyone but repeat docents and the visitors seem to like it. This is only one facet of the many tours offered.

Colonial America is being re-worked by a committed group of docents and with Betsy's guidance. The tour is being renamed "Art and Life in Early America" to encompass a longer historical period, will have enhanced material incorporating native American and slavery viewpoints, and features three hour format. Some 1-1/2 hour tours will still be offered. When fine-tuned, training will be offered. Teachers are already signing up for the tours this fall. All docent input is welcomed.

Spalding House: A review of tour planning was given by Kayla, our summer intern. Art and academics will be featured in a series of tours geared to elementary school students. The current focus is on the opening exhibition, "A Thousand Words and Counting." When the tours are fully developed, the Education Department will offer docent training.

Workshops: Several will be scheduled for fall, TBA.

Marilyn Smith