



Art Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2019

Present: Susan Blumberg-Kason, Chair; Kristin McDaniel; Vicky Bush-Joseph; Johanna Delaney; Margaret Carsello-Chiappetta; Cheryl Postrozny Eden; Kathleen Wilson; Karen Kleckner Keefe, Executive Director

Call to order at 7:03 p.m.

On a motion by Vicky Bush-Joseph and seconded by Kathleen Wilson, the minutes of the November 7 meeting were unanimously approved.

Time Capsule for Trees

Executive Director Keefe shared a timeline for programs associated with the installation. Committee members suggested removing “Kickoff” from the title of the March program featuring the Morton Arboretum, as the exhibit itself was not being presented that evening. Other discussion involved the provision of food and beverage and how Christine and/or Jeremiah would share information about the installation at the March 5 program. The committee recommended photos of Jeremiah’s process be used.

Zhou Brothers Installation Update

Susan Blumberg-Kason informed the committee that installers hung the piece on January 7 and invited anyone who had not already seen it in place to do so after the meeting. She also informed the committee of the discussion with Michael Zhou as to how to list the artists on the wall label.

Rotating Exhibits

Keefe did a walkthrough of the Quiet Room with Katrina Davis-Salazar in early January. The artist plans to hang her exhibit sometime in the last two weeks of January. She will submit a title for the exhibit, her artist’s statement, and images of the works in advance. A reception is planned for March 21.

Margaret Carsello Chiappetta will begin work creating documentation to exhibit this summer as part of the restoration of the Windhover sculpture at Hinsdale Middle School. The exhibit may be delayed, however, pending the HMS PTO’s timeline for getting the piece refinished.

Joan Geary accepted the Library's invitation to exhibit in the fall and toured the Quiet Room with Karen Keefe in December.

The committee also discussed continued interest in doing an exhibit that would introduce and celebrate Chicago's vibrant Mexican art scene. Exhibits and/or programs could tie in to culturally significant events like *Día de Muertos*.

Cleve Carney Portfolio Acquisition

Margaret Carsello-Chiappetta made a presentation highlighting the reputation of the artists in the portfolio and the ways in which this potential acquisition met the criteria outlined in the Library's Art Policy.

Carsello-Chiappetta reviewed the artists' local ties and international reputations. She highlighted the fact that these artists have also been very influential in art education in the Chicago area—have taught and mentored hundreds of students over their combined decades of work.

The committee discussed some of the concerns about the acquisition that were raised at the last Library Board meeting.

Vicky Bush-Joseph suggested sharing Margaret Carsello-Chiappetta's presentation with the Board to provide them with more information about the caliber of the artists in the portfolio. Kristin McDaniel volunteered to do so at the January Board meeting.

Johanna Delaney reported that, per Justin Witte, Curator/Director of the Cleve Carney Art Gallery, there are ten portfolios remaining for sale. Kathleen Wilson commented that not acting quickly could result in a lost opportunity for the Library's collection.

If the Art Committee were to make this acquisition, McDaniel suggested that the pieces could temporarily be displayed in the Quiet Room and, at the Library's convenience, Justin Witte could be invited to give a talk about the collection and the process the artists went through to create this limited series of original works.

Executive Director Keefe told the committee that, pending more review and discussion of the acquisition from the Library Board, she would abstain from any vote to acquire the portfolio.

The committee agreed to table taking any action on a 2019 budget or the purchase of the Cleve Carney Portfolio until after the January 15 Board meeting.

Other Business

The Art Committee scheduled their next meeting for January 16 at 7:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Approved: January 16, 2019

