There were present:

William A. Royall, Jr., President
Karen C. Abramson
Martin J. Barrington
Tyler Bishop
Mary Anne Carlson
Louise B. Cochrane
W. Birch Douglass III
Kenneth M. Dye
Richard B. Gilliam
Susan S. Goode
Margaret N. Gottwald
John H. Hager
Terrell Luck Harrigan
Jil Womack Harris
Dr. Monroe E. Harris, Jr.
Ivan P. Jecklin
Kenneth Johnson, Sr.
H. Eugene Lockhart
Judith A. Niemyer, MD
Sara O’Keefe
Dr. Claude G. Perkins
Michele Petersen
Satya Rangarajan
Michael J. Schewel
Charles H. Seilheimer, Jr.
Dr. Shantaram K. Talegaonkar

By invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director
Kelly B. Armstrong
Stephen D. Bonadies
Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield
Naomi Crown
John Fuller
Claudia E. Keenan
Laura Keller
Alex McGrath
Cameron O’Brion
Bret Payne
Hossein Sadid
PJ Shaver
Jayne Shaw
I. CALL TO ORDER

At 12:45am, President Bill Royall called the meeting to order and welcomed the board members.

Motion: proposed by Mr. Seilheimer and seconded by Dr. Perkins that the minutes of the June 18, 2015 Board of Trustees meeting be approved as distributed. Motion approved.

II. ARTCYCLE

Courtney Morano shared information about the interactive exhibit ArtCycle, on display from September 6, 2015 until June 30, 2016. It was inspired by the UCI races in Richmond in September and includes a virtual bicycle tour of the museum, art projects, and a mural by local artist Matt Lively.

III. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

First, Mr. Royall introduced the new Council President, Alex McGrath, and two recently appointed trustees, Ken Dye, Senior Director of Government Relations at Comcast, and Sara O'Keefe, a decorative arts historian living in Washington, D.C. He thanked Lindley Smith and Mike Connors for serving on the board.

Dr. Smith was a Trustee from 1996 to 2006 and from 2010 to 2015, serving most recently to the Art Acquisitions Sub-committee, the Art and Education committee, and the Resources and Visitor Experience Committee. Mr. Royall thanked him for so generously supporting the museum through gifts of art, financial support, and volunteering time, especially for founding and serving as president of the Friends of African and African Art.

Mr. Royall also thanked Mr. Connors for serving as a Trustee for four years, most recently providing insight as Chair of the Fiscal Oversight Committee, and a member of the Executive and Governance Committee, Art Acquisitions Sub-committee, Operations Committee, Strategic Plan Task Force, and the Nominating Committee.
Next, the president announced that he has appointed several new chairs:
   - Resources & Visitor Experience – Tyler Bishop and Birch Douglass, Co-Chairs
   - Art and Education Committee – Ivan Jecklin to co-chair with Susan Goode
   - Fiscal Oversight – Terrell to co-chair with John Luke

IV. REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

Director Alex Nyerges introduced Michael Taylor, the new Chief Curator and Deputy Director for Art and Education, who most recently worked as the director of the Hood Museum. His experience also includes fifteen years spent as a curator of modern and contemporary art at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Dr. Taylor will oversee education, curatorial, library, statewide, and exhibitions. Mr. Nyerges also introduced Sarah Hendricks, the museums newest major gift officer.

Mr. Nyerges updated the committee on the ongoing curatorial staff searches. The top candidate for the head of American art will be meeting key collectors and board members over the next few weeks. The search for a new curator of modern and contemporary art is in the beginning phases.

Next, Mr. Nyerges reported that the 2020 Strategic Plan was approved by both boards last fiscal year, so the development staff has been fundraising for the first initiatives. First, the museum will be hiring a Deputy Director for Human Resources, a search led by Burton Fuller Management. The Employee Engagement Task Force has developed a list of suggestions. Next, the group will work with the museum leadership to develop an action plan to implement these changes.

V. REPORT OF THE FOUNDATION

Foundation President Kelly Armstrong announced that 2016 will mark the 40th anniversary of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation then provided the board with an update on the Foundation endowment. At the end of FY15, the Foundation managed $250 million. Although the portfolio earned 1.7% for the year, the five year return was 9.9%. The Foundation has also added to the endowment through fundraising. She also reviewed a new allocation policy which will give donors the opportunity to contribute 5% of a restricted or designated gifts to the unrestricted endowment.

Lastly, Ms. Armstrong thanked the Trustees who have agreed to serve on Foundation Board committees. Michele Petersen will serve on the Nominating Committee, Terrell Harrigan on Budget and Compensation, Gene Lockhart on Investment Committee, and Tyler Bishop on the Governance and Audit Committee.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

   ➢ Operations Committee – John H. Hager, Co-Chair

Mr. Hager updated the board on several recent and upcoming projects including the expansion of the Fabergé galleries, the repairs to the vestibule ceiling, and the refinishing of the lower level gallery floors. Mr. Bonadies explained that the renovation of the Robinson House has been delayed because the bids received were significantly higher than anticipated. He proposed that the museum appeal to the Bureau of Capital Outlay Management for additional funds. When complete, the building will
house a Richmond Regional Tourism office, an exhibition interpreting the history of the museum grounds, and offices for museum staff.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Hager and seconded by Ms. Harris that the museum appeal to the Bureau of Capital Outlay Management for additional funding for the Robinson House renovation and expansion. Motion approved, Ken Johnson opposed.

- **Resources & Visitor Experience Committee – Tyler Bishop and Birch Douglass, Co-Chairs**

Mr. Douglass congratulated the Development staff for raising $8.7 million in FY15, a 40% increase from the previous year. So far, the staff has raised 35% of the $5.9 million fundraising goal for FY16. He reported that the committee discussed engaging former board members through the 1936 Society for people who have served on both the Trustee and Foundation boards. He announced that the *Japanese Tattoo* exhibition has been extended and that the museum currently anticipates that 90,000 people will visit *Rodin: Evolution of a Genius*. Deputy Director for Resources and Visitor Experience Claudia Keenan provided an overview of decision packages submitted to the state. The museum has requested funding for several initiatives within the 2020 Strategic Plan.

- **Art and Education Committee – Ivan Jecklin and Susan Goode, Co-Chairs**

Ms. Goode welcomed Dr. Taylor and thanked him for providing an overview of the division. The committee also discussed expanding the archives, discussed the current exhibitions portfolio, and reviewed the final numbers from *Van Gogh, Manet, and Matisse: The Art of the Flower*.

- **Fiscal Oversight Committee – John A. Luke, Chair**

Mr. Luke provided a summary of FY15 in which the museum had $700,000 excess revenue over expenses. So far, the museum is on track to have a modest surplus in FY16, as well. He explained that Jim and Fran McGlothlin have decided to have their American Art collection permanently installed at the museum, but the collection will eventually be donated. The museum has proposed a change to the approved budget to install the collection, publish a catalogue, and host a reception.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Douglass and seconded by Ms. Goode that the budget be amended to include $306,300.50 for the McGlothlin collection project. Motion approved.

At 1:55 pm the meeting went into closed session.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Royall, and seconded by Dr. Perkins that the meeting go into closed session under Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6), (8) and (9) of the Freedom of Information Act to discuss the **investing of public funds** where competition or bargaining is involved, where, if made public initially, the financial interest of the Museum would be adversely affected, and
to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and fundraising activities**, and **grants and contracts for services to be performed**, and
to discuss and consider matters relating to specific **gifts, bequests, and grants**.
Motion carried.

At 2:03pm, the meeting resumed in open session.

**Motion:** proposed by Ms. Goode, and seconded by Ms. Abramson that the Committee certify that the closed session just held was conducted in compliance with Virginia State law, as set forth in the Certification Resolution distributed. Motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken, the results of which are outlined in the Certification Resolution.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Jecklin, and seconded by Dr. Perkins to recommend the approval of a resolution delegating authority the authority to secure individual works of art with a purchase price not to exceed $3 million to the Director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Prior to any such purchase, the Director of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts shall notify and obtain in writing approval from at least two of the following: the President of the Board of Trustees, the Vice-President of the Board of Trustees, and the Chair of the Art Acquisition Subcommittee. This delegation of authority is intended only for art purchases where a delay until the next Board of Trustees meeting would adversely impact the VMFA’s bargaining power or the purchase price.

**Motion:** proposed by Mr. Jecklin, and seconded by Ms. Abramson that the Board ratify the recommendation of Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee to accept the following **gift considerations** as fully described on your motion sheet:

1. Two Muromachi period storage jars:
   Japanese, Muromachi period (1392–1573), *Shigaraki Storage Jar*, 15th century, Shigaraki ware; Shiga prefecture, Japan, Stoneware with natural ash glaze, overall: 16¼ x 15¼”

   Japanese, Muromachi period (1392–1573), *Tamba Storage Jar*, 16th century, Tamba ware; Hyoko prefecture, Japan, Stoneware with natural ash glaze, overall: 17⅞ x 14½”

   **Donor:** Mrs. Takako Hauge, 6626 Tansey Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042
   **Credit:** Gift of Victor L. and Takako M. Hauge

   **Executive summary:** These two storage jars are fine examples of high-fired stoneware vessels produced in Japan in the 15th and 16th centuries. These gifts, which highlight the distinctive use of glazing and clay firing techniques employed by potters at the ancient kilns near Kyoto, are important additions to the museum’s collection of Japanese Art.

2. Shaoqiang Chen 陳紹強 (Chinese, born 1981), *Hydrangea Blossoms in Maymont Park* 绣球花开, dated 2014, Hanging scroll; ink and color on paper, image: 29 13/16 x 19¾”
1. The artist, 1985 Airy Circle, Richmond, VA 23238
Credit: Gift of the Artist

Executive summary: This painting of white hydrangeas was made by Shaoqiang Chen, a Chinese-born artist who now lives and works in Richmond. Drawing upon traditional painting techniques, as well as the natural beauty of blooming flowers in Maymont Park, this work would be an important contemporary addition to our collection of Chinese painting.

3. Willie Anne Wright (American, born 1924), *Civil War Redux*, Portfolio of 26 archival sepia-toned gelatin silver pinhole prints, 1980s-2006, 14 x 11” to 16 x 20”
Donor: The artist, 205 Strawberry Street, Richmond VA 23220
Credit: Gift of Willie Anne Wright in memory of Jack Wright

Executive summary: This gift of 26 pinhole photographs of Civil War reenactments by Willie Anne Wright will deepen the Museum’s representation of this highly regarded Virginia artist, as well as strengthening our photography collection.

Donor: Drs. Shantaram & Sunita Talegaonkar, 9120 Broadstone Road, Richmond, VA 23236
Credit: Gift of Drs. Shantaram and Sunita Talegaonkar

Executive summary: This visually captivating and strikingly modern Indian painting will enhance our collection of South Asian Art. Generously offered by Trustee Shantaram Talegaonkar and his wife Sunita, *Tribal Woman Gardening* will deepen our holdings of Indian painting and allow us to extend the collection’s story of India’s art beyond Independence.

5. Three Native American objects:
   - Nez Perce, *Woman’s Dress*, ca. 1870, Hide, beads, trade cloth, 49½ x 54½”
   - Arapaho, *Tobacco Bag*, ca. 1870-80, Hide, beads, porcupine quills, pigment, 35½ x 5¼”
   - Teton (Brule) Sioux, *Tobacco Bag*, ca. 1880s, Hide, beads, porcupine quills, pigment, 33 x 6⅝”
Donor: James and Judith Bowers, 102 Woodhall Spa, Williamsburg, VA 23188
Credit: Gift of James and Judith Bowers

Executive summary: These three Native American objects were exhibited at the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893 and most likely purchased from one of the various booths that sold artworks made by this
country’s first inhabitants. The beautifully crafted Nez Perce woman’s dress has been described by conservator Tom Towner as "one of the most finely made of its kind," while the Arapaho and Teton Sioux tobacco bags are also of very high quality. With their exquisite beadwork, nineteenth century provenance, and good condition, these three works would be important gifts to the collection that would allow us to rotate similar works in future gallery displays.

6. Rosa Bonheur (French, 1822–1899), *Walking Bull (Taureau Marchant)*, ca. 1845, Bronze, 6⅜ x 13⅛ x 4⅜”

Donor: Dr. Arden Sterling, 3606 Seminary Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227
Credit: Gift of the family of Stelly and Al Sterling

Executive summary: This naturalistic sculpture of a bull by the noted nineteenth-century French artist Rosa Bonheur typifies her significant, but rare contributions to sculpture and enhances VMFA’s exemplary collection of *animalier* bronzes.

and the loan recommendations made by the Staff:

**Loans approved:**

1. Two oil paintings:

   Benjamin Marshall, *Colonel Henry Campbell Shooting on a Moor*, ca. 1806, oil on canvas. Paul Mellon Collection, 99.81


   Recommendation: lend

Exhibition: “Two Extraordinary Women: The Lives and Art of Maria Hadfield Cosway and Mary Darby Robinson,” The Fralin Museum of Art at the University of Virginia, January 29 – May 1, 2016

Recommendation: lend.


Exhibition: “Jasper Johns and Edvard Munch,” Munch Museum, Oslo, June 18 – September 26, 2016; VMFA, November 19, 2016 – February 20, 2017

Recommendation: lend with courier


Recommendation: lend


Recommendation: lend


Recommendation: lend with courier to the National Gallery only, in view of the extreme fragility of this work.


Recommendation: lend to Quebec only, as Mellon loan restrictions limit the loan to one venue.
8. Thomas Eakins, \textit{The Artist and his Father Hunting Reed Birds on the Cohansey Marshes}, ca. 1874, oil on canvas laid on composition board. Paul Mellon Collection, 85.638


Recommendation: lend

Changes to loans previously approved:

1. Georgia O’Keeffe, \textit{White Iris}, 1930, oil on canvas. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce C. Gottwald, 85.1534

Exhibition: “Georgia O’Keeffe”

Musée des beaux-arts de Nantes is no longer a venue.


Exhibition: “Pierre Bonnard (1867 – 1947), Painting Arcadia”

The final venue has been changed to Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, February 6 – May 15, 2016.

3. Jan Miense Molenaer, \textit{Allegory of Marital Fidelity}, ca. 1633, oil on canvas. Adolph D. and Wilkins C. Williams Fund, 49.11.19


Exhibition: “The Art of Music”
The initial venue, The San Diego Museum of Art (September 26, 2015 – January 5, 2016), was approved in September, 2014. A second venue has been proposed: Palacio de Bellas Artes in Mexico City, March – June, 2016

The second venue is approved.


Frank Vincent DuMond, *Iris*, ca. 1895, oil on canvas mounted on board. Gift of Jerome and Rita Gans, 97.116

Exhibition: “Audubon to Warhol: the Art of American Still Life”

The Phoenix Art Museum is no longer a venue.

**Loans denied:**

1. Pierre Auguste Renoir, *The Artist’s Son, Jean, Drawing*, 1901, oil on canvas. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 83.48

   Exhibition: “Renoir in China, from Impressionism to the ‘nacreous’ period,”

   Reason for denial: the lead time for this request is insufficient.


   Exhibition: “A Revolution Within”

   Reasons for denial: the work is fragile and vulnerable to condition changes during long spans of travel and was lent in 2012-2013 to an exhibition in Los Angeles and Chicago organized by the same curator. It is a key piece in the Lewis Contemporary Gallery.


   Exhibition: “Caillebotte, Painter and Gardener”

   Reasons for denial: this work is an anchor in the Mellon impressionist gallery and the project’s theme of gardening does not fit the boating subject of our painting.

4. Pablo Picasso, *Jester on Horseback*, 1905, oil on composition board. Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon, 84.2

   Exhibition: an exhibition of works by Picasso
Venues & dates: Musée des civilisations de l’Europe & de la Méditerranée (MuCEM), Marseille, France, April 26 – August 29, 2016

Reason for denial: the work is too fragile to travel overseas.

5. Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, *Two Streetwalkers (Zwei Kokotten)*, 1914, pastel on paper. The Ludwig and Rosy Fischer Collection, Gift of the Estate of Anne R. Fischer, 2009.175

Exhibition: “Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and the Vibration of the Metropolis”
Venues & dates: Kunsthauz Zurich, February 10 – May 7, 2017

Reason for denial: the work is too fragile to travel.


Exhibition: “Andrew Wyeth”

Reason for denial: the painting is unstable, with ongoing condition issues that make it too fragile to travel.

Dr. Taylor reported on **long-term loans** from the collection:

1. Mason Chamberlin, *Portrait of Thomas Nelson, Jr.*, 18th century, oil on canvas. Gift of Dr. John Randolph Page, 54.4

   Purpose: long-term loan to the permanent collection of the Dewitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, Colonial Williamsburg, since March of 2013

   The loan has been extended through September of 2017.


   Purpose: long-term loan for a period of one year to the Metropolitan Museum of Art for use in their companion dressing room from the Worsham-Rockefeller house

   The loan is approved through July of 2016.

Dr. Taylor reported on **Director’s Discretionary Purchases:**

1. Antoine-Louis Barye (French, 1796–1875), *Study of a Tiger (Etude de tigre)*, 1832, Lithograph, image: 3¾” x 6⅜”, sheet: 11 5/16” x 16¾” (2015.252)

   Vendor: Galerie Paul Prouté, 74 rue de Seine, 75006 Paris, France
   Source: Funds provided by Mrs. Nelson L. St Clair, Jr., in Memory of Joseph T. Reinis
Executive summary: This charming lithograph of a tiger in repose is emblematic of Antoine-Louis Barye’s unique approach to animal themes in his sculpture and printmaking. With more than 45 works by this French master in its collection, VMFA has become an important repository for Barye’s sculpture and printmaking, thus making this lithograph a welcome addition to our already impressive holdings.

2. Kiyomi Iwata (American, born Japan, 1941), Chrysalis Four, 2014, Silk thread (Kibiso), 25 x 55 x 7” (2015.253)

Vendor: Visual Arts Center, 1812 W. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23220
Source: The Kathleen Boone Samuels Memorial Fund

Executive summary: Primarily a fiber artist, Kiyomi Iwata uses the medium of silk to push the boundaries between painting and sculpture, as well as to explore the intersection of Japanese and American artistic traditions. This would be the first work by Iwata, a noted Japanese-born artist who has been based in Richmond since the early 1960’s, to enter VMFA’s collection and its purchase fits with our mission to collect important Virginian artists.

3. Korean, Joseon dynasty, High-Foot Offering Bowl, 19th century, Bunwon kiln, Gwangju, Gyeonggi-do province, South Korea, porcelain with pale blue glaze, 7½ x 8½” (2015.254)

Vendor: Kathy and Charles Ko, 181 Pinoak Drive, Bumpass, VA 23024
Source: The Kathleen Boone Samuels Memorial Fund

Executive summary: This high-footed offering bowl represents the simple, yet elegant white porcelain produced at Bunwon kilns in Korea during the nineteenth century. This vessel, which would have been used in rituals, either in a Buddhist temple or for ancestor worship at home, will enhance VMFA’s growing collection of Korean Art.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

No additional business was brought before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned by Mr. Royall at 2:17pm.
CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee.

VOTE


NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Barrington/ Lockhart/

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Farrell/Fralin/Luke/Malek/Markel/McGlothlin/Reynolds