

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Minutes of the Operations Committee Meeting
30 September 2014, 8:30am
Founder's Conference Room

There were present:

John H. Hager, Co-Chair
Susan S. Goode
Dr. Paul Monroe
Stanley J. Olander, Jr.

Also attending:

A. Cameron O'Brion
Bob Tabor
Laura Keller
Stephen D. Bonadies

Absent:

Thomas F. Farrell II, Co-Chair
Michael M. Connors
Richard B. Gilliam
Jil Womack Harris
Marlene A. Malek
Steven A. Markel
Satya Rangarajan
Michael J. Schewel

I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair John Hager called the meeting to order at 8:37am and thanked the committee members for attending.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion: proposed by Susan S. Goode and seconded by Dr. Paul Monroe to approve the minutes of the June 17th meeting as distributed. Motion passed.

III. CAPITAL PROJECTS

First, Deputy Director for Collections and Facilities Management Stephen Bonadies introduced Bob Tabor, the new Capital Outlay Manager. He then reviewed several projects currently underway, including the 1985 Wing Roof Replacement, the renovation of the Fabergé galleries, and the Robinson House expansion. Mr. Bonadies elaborated on the Robinson House project, explaining that the finance and administration division will be relocating from 201 N. Boulevard to the Robinson House. The first floor will be open to the public with a Richmond Regional Tourism visitor center and a gallery interpreting the grounds history. Richmond Regional Tourism anticipates 18,000 to 20,000 visitors per year and plans bus tours beginning and ending at the Robinson House.

Future capital projects may include the conversion of the former director's office at the 1936 entrance into a works on paper gallery. This would integrate the Raysor Print Study, add gallery space, and make the Raysor print collection more accessible.

IV. MAINTENANCE RESERVE PROJECTS

Next, Mr. Bonadies reported that the Grove Avenue stairwell replacement is nearing completion. The museum's upcoming priorities include replacing the fire resistant plywood in the Mellon wing and air handling units in the 1970 wing. These projects will be completed over the next four to five years.

V. PUBLIC SPACES

The committee next reviewed progress made on the Project for Public Spaces. Mr. Bonadies showed images of the new seating and planters in the sculpture garden. In response to plans to improve the exterior of the 1936 entrance, the committee recommended delaying these initiatives until the works on paper gallery has been completed and clarifying the purpose it would serve compared to the main entrance.

VI. CONSERVATION AND COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

Mr. Bonadies reported on the implementation of the new collections management system. The systems used to store data and images have been integrated and connected to the website. After a very competitive application process, the Institute of Museum and Library Services has awarded a \$150,000 grant to the museum for this project. He reported the need for a paper conservator and additional art storage space. The museum has identified an endowment source to fund the conservator position and space needs will be addressed in the developing strategic plan.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:41am.