Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

Minutes of the Trustee Orientation

Tuesday, March 26th, 2018, 10:00am to 1:00pm

Claiborne Robertson Room

There were present:

 Carol Ann Bischoff

 Joan Brock

 Marland Buckner

 Edie Cabaniss

 Jeffrey Humber

 Andrew Lewis

 Suzy Szasz Palmer

 Charles Whitaker

By Invitation:

 Alex Nyerges, Director

 Karen Abramson

 Stephen Bonadies

 Caprice Bragg

Jody Green

Tom Gutenberger

Jan Hatchette

Cynthia Norwood

Hossein Sadid

Michael Taylor

Kimberly Wilson

1. WELCOME

At 10:13am, Director Alex Nyerges welcomed the group and thanked them for attending. He explained why he personally was drawn to VMFA, noting that being open 365 day a year and accessible to all was very important to him. He then asked for all present to introduce themselves.

1. MUSEUM OVERVIEW

Next, Director Nyerges reviewed VMFA’s mission and core values of education, accessibility and being open 365 days per year. He also reviewed the Museum’s organizational structure, noting that it is an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and reviewed its senior management structure. He then introduced Chief Financial Officer Hossein Sadid who presented a budget tutorial to the new Trustees. Director Nyerges noted that Mr. Sadid has transformed the budget process by looking at both the Museum and Foundation budgets at the same time, creating an integrated budget.

Director Nyerges introduced Vice President for Board Relations and Strategic Planning Caprice Bragg, who outlined the four goals of the 2020 Strategic Plan, and noted that a more extensive report would be presented at the following day’s full board of trustees meeting. The group then took a brief break.

1. BOARD OF TRUSTEES OVERVIEW

Director Nyerges explained the differing roles of the VMFA Board of Trustees and the VMFA Foundation Board of Directors, addressing the relationship between the Foundation and the Museum. He noted that the VMFA Board of Trustees monitors the agency’s activities and acts as the fiduciary board while the Foundation Board of Directors serve as the 501(c)(3) fundraising branch, monitoring the endowments and investments for the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Foundation. He noted that the two boards have a signed operating agreement.

He then invited Ms. Bragg to give an overview of the committee structure and their areas oversight. Ms. Bragg explained the roles of the Executive Committee, Education Committee, Art & Collections Committee, Art Acquisitions Sub-Committee, External Affairs Committee, Fiscal Oversight Committee, and the Nominating Committee. Director Nyerges then introduced the leadership team, and Ms. Bragg announced that there would be lunch followed by a tour of art storage led by Stephen Bonadies, Senior Deputy Director for Conservation and Collections.

There being no further business, the orientation meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm.

Recorded by: Jody Green

Administrative and Project Coordinator to the Director