

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
Minutes of the Art and Collections Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, June 21, 2022, 10:00am  
Claiborne Robertson Room

There were present:

Meg Gottwald, Chair *videoconference; personal (travel)*  
Tom Papa, Vice Chair  
Edie Cabaniss  
Cindy Conner *videoconference; personal (travel)*  
Anne Edwards  
Janet Geldzahler  
Martha Glasser  
David Goode  
Sara O'Keefe *videoconference; personal (scheduling)*  
Michele Petersen  
Hubert Phipps  
Pam Reynolds  
Suzy Szasz Palmer

Absent:

None

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Alexis Assam  
Kay Baker  
Brian Ball  
Caprice Bragg  
Joan Brock  
Valerie Cassel Oliver  
Stephanie Cooperstein  
Courtney Freeman  
Sarah Kennel  
Cindy Marquez, Office of the Attorney General  
Colleen Milewski  
Michael Taylor  
Ashlin Wilbanks

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Vice Chair Tom Papa called the meeting to order at 10:03am.

## II. MINUTES APPROVAL

**Motion:** Proposed by Mr. Papa and seconded by Ms. Michelle Petersen to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2021 Art and Collections Committee meeting as distributed. Motion carried.

## III. PHOTOGRAPHY COLLECTION PLAN

Sarah Kennel, Aaron Siskind Curator of Photography and Director of the Raysor Center for Works on Paper, provided an overview of the history and strengths of VMFA's photography collection. Dr. Kennel described a collecting strategy that will expand the collection to continue acquiring works of the highest quality and historical importance, acquire works that provide "connective tissue" between focus areas, seek work to make the collection unique, and explore synergies with other areas of the museum's permanent collection.

## IV. WHITFIELD LOVELL EXHIBITION

Alexis Assam, Dr. Regenia A. Perry Assistant Curator of Global Contemporary Art, discussed an upcoming Whitfield Lovell exhibition. *Whitfield Lovell: Passages* was organized by Dr. Michelé Wige, Curator of Exhibitions at the American Federation of Arts, and will be curated for VMFA by Ms. Assam in June 2023. The exhibition highlights the artist's masterful conté crayon drawings, assemblages, and multi-sensory installations that focus on aspects of African American history while raising universal questions about identity, memory, and America's collective heritage.

## V. OTHER BUSINESS/ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Papa suggested a revision of the name of the Committee for consideration.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was seconded and approved by the Committee at 10:52am.

Recorded by: Stephanie Cooperstein  
Executive Administrator to the Chief Strategy Officer and  
Deputy Director for Strategic Planning, Government and Board Relations