

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Arcadia Commons Campus

Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Advisory Team

5:30 PM

April 4, 2017

Present: C. Baker, L. Baker, Deittrick, Jbara, Johnson, Laabs, Larson, McElhone

Absent: Baskerville-Jones, Hollins, Stinson

Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
 - The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM.
2. Approval of the Agenda
 - The Agenda was approved as presented.
3. Approval of the Minutes – January 3, 2016
 - The Minutes were approved as presented.
4. Introduction to Science On a Sphere
5. Announcements and Director's Report
 - We have been working with WMU Medical School for the Binding Wounds exhibit. They will be bringing in presenters tied to history of African-American nurses and doctors. They will have a 4 pm program open to the public and will invite new residents for a reception after the presentation.
 - The sun dial in front of the Museum will be kept. The rain garden will be worked around the sun dial.
 - FY17 Capital Projects: all are finished besides fabrication for science gallery; Foodways Symposium is this weekend.
 - 50% plans for the rainwater management exhibit were shared. Water will be captured so that it will soak into the ground instead of running straight into the river. We will have exhibit labels coordinated by the Education department to interpret the rain garden.
- 5.1 Review of Bylaws and Membership
 - Several aspects of MAT Bylaws and Membership were addressed.
 - We would like a student representative (or two) on the MAT. We would welcome nontraditional students, for example from the Foundation for Excellence. We are exploring approaches for involving young people in continued programming. An option that we will look into would be to post on the website for applications.

- There were several comments about seeking opportunities to enhance the diversity of the MAT, including ethnicity, age, gender, socioeconomic, (dis)ability, and much more.
- Please look over the Bylaws and Membership document and give Bill any feedback.
- Bill will propose revision to the MAT's Bylaws' purpose statement.

6. Information Items/Updates

6.1 KVM Science Gallery Next Steps

6.1.1 Roto

- Photos of in-progress elements of the new science gallery were shared, including Body Systems Projection, Entryway Sign, Augmented Reality Sandbox (will use rubber pellets), Rhythm Machine, Les Paul Rail display structure, Food Innovation Quiz (has updatable question database).
- Diagram of plans for Innovation Lab, ThinkTank, and Innovation Gallery were shared.
- Bill will be traveling with the Exhibits team to visit Roto to examine progress on construction.

6.2 Museum and Website Visits

- We don't have March figures yet, but we will send updates when we receive them. Numbers are still good for the year, and we are on track to meet our goal. Social media numbers continue to grow.
- Elizabeth, who handles social media, has been asked to speak at multiple organizations.

6.3 Programming Highlights

- Storytelling Festival was a hit, with 170 visitors Friday and 675 Saturday. Fretboard had about 3800 combined Friday and Saturday. AniMotion Festival is coming up June 2 and 3.
- Spring Break Hands-On is currently going on.
- Foodways Symposium will be April 7-8, featuring Toni Tipton-Martin, award-winning food and nutrition journalist. Saturday events will be at the Culinary Arts and Food Innovation Center buildings. Kristina Lechner's Food Not Food art exhibition will be shown Friday night.
- And Still We Rise exhibit is showing until June 4, and the curator, Dr. Carolyn Mazloomi, will do a presentation May 21 at 1:30 pm.
- Wizards of Pop exhibit is open until April 9.
- Coming April 15 is Remembering Marvin Hamlisch, a photographic exhibit shown in partnership with Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. We will have two presentations from KSO here.
- Binding Wounds is coming May 27. We will be adding some items from Collections to complement the exhibit.

- Dinosaurs are coming June 17.
- Guitar: instrument That Rocked The World is coming September 30, 2018.
- Life enrichment opportunities are still available through the Groves. Beekeeping, Mushroom Cultivation, Guitar Luthier, Natural Clothing Making, are examples of current/planned offerings.
- We held a Momentum graduation ceremony here for culinary students; we've been working with Urban Alliance with felons, homeless individuals, etc. to provide them training, and with employers to get them jobs. We had 160 people show up for graduation, which far outstripped our expectations.

7. Advisory Team Feedback/Comments

- Could we find an easier way to get wheelchairs into the building? The Museum entrance is too far from the road.
- Outreach involving small, interesting exhibits to places like the Fountains and Friendship Village would be wonderful for elderly individuals who can't make it here. We could be more active in outreach to retirement homes, schools, etc. A portable exhibit or slideshow of exhibits could be made for a virtual museum experience.
- Will we be able to see sound waves?
 - One element will show waves through elongated strings as a "low-tech" visual.
- Will we be able to eat at the new café during a future meeting?
 - It will depend on student schedules. We can also look into setting up something with Rachel Bair to see the new campus.
- Will the new science gallery adequately serve the deaf community?
 - We will have closed-captioned on all displays. We are looking at other technology to add another layer for blind patrons (Beacon Technology).
 - We're also working with WMU dept of blind and low vision studies, and they helped us with a number of assessments; recently, we've been experimenting with a 3D model of the Museum so you can find your way via the map. We will have Dr. Helen Lee help with her students to analyze the effectiveness of the model.
- Could Disability Network work with IS Staff to train and/or give feedback about our services?
 - We are working with several other organizations about homelessness, race relations, etc. Bill is a member of Disability Network's board.

8. Next Meeting – July 11, 2017 @ 5:30 PM (future meeting: October 3)

9. Adjournment

9.1 The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM.