

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Arcadia Commons Campus

Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Advisory Team

5:30 PM

January 5, 2021

Present: Baker, Blanchard, Ferraro, Fullerton, Hollins, Jbara, McElhone, Morehouse, Stinson, Washington

Absent: Justice

Meeting Agenda

1. Acceptance of the Agenda
 - Accepted as presented.
2. Acceptance of the Minutes – October 6, 2020
 - Accepted as presented.
3. Informational Updates
 - Alex Lee had to step down from the MAT, so we have an opening. We are looking for candidates to fill that opening as well as one other opening as soon as possible.
 - The Strategic Plan was a guiding document that was created and approved in 2018. It had five strategic initiatives that we were able to work from during the pandemic. Related projects included BLM murals, digital programs, actively assessing all of our efforts to continue to look for improvement, commitment to becoming a more diverse and equitable museum. The Strategic Plan continues to serve as a guideline and embraces KVCC's core values.
 - Strategic Plans will be updated probably in the next year as we get ready to do a self-study through the American Alliance of Museums. This is scheduled for next November, but the date might be pushed back due to the pandemic.
 - Back in March, we had to quickly close down. We were ready to reopen to the public on a limited basis on November 17 but had to postpone due to the Governor's mandates and updates regarding Covid. More information will be published soon about reopening.
 - During the pandemic, because we weren't able to have public in the building, we developed more programs and event content in a virtual/digital format. The Chemistry program was successfully turned into a virtual program. We did have help from Dr. Washington, Dr. Eagan, and others from the College who partnered with us to make this event happen. We also have new exhibits, including on the 40th anniversary of the Kalamazoo Tornado; the Walker brothers, who were disabled and whose parents were local disability advocates; and the switchboard exhibit from the history gallery, which was recreated digitally.
 - We know that there are opportunities to deliver both in-person and online content, which allows us 24-hour access for patrons.
 - The Juneteenth event was our first livestreaming event that we have been involved in, and we're preparing for Storytelling and Fretboard Festival, which will use livestreaming and prerecorded content.

- Earlier this fall, the Annual Summit on Racism was held, and the College and KVM successfully partnered with them.
- Our website now offers a 360-degree tour of the KVM. One of our IS Staff Members has been adding video and audio links. There are clickable icons that deliver more information about an exhibit or subject matter. This would not have been possible without the closure. The trick will be finding the balance between in-person and online experiences for patrons.
- Capital planning: we are in the process of working on a new exhibit element called Pavegen Kinetic Tiles. The tiles capture energy as you walk on top of them and convert potential energy to kinetic energy. These tiles have been used in large airports. We are also proposing looking at AV updates for MJS Theater. We have initiatives aligned with collections care and management as well.
- We had the dome in the planetarium cleaned in preparation for the GLPA's annual conference. The conference was cancelled, but we will be hosting it this fall. This will put a spotlight on the KVM and KVCC.
- Bill can be reached at the KVM at any time, as he is returning to the office tomorrow. Please feel free to reach out.

4. Advisor Discussion

- Is the committee involved in the strategic planning process?
 - The MAT will be involved. The last round was done internally with some support from the MAT.
- Would the KVM be interested in info from local businesses about how Covid has impacted them?
 - We would be more than happy to collect their stories and narratives. They can do that online or reach out to Bill. It will definitely be a big part of our story and will continue to be over the next few years.
- The KVM has been doing a great job preserving current history for future generations during the pandemic time.
- Time capsule for 2020 was proposed. Is there some way the KVM could partner to do a time capsule?
 - That's a great idea. We can see if other community partners are thinking about it, or we could explore it through the KVM and/or College. This would be something memorable especially for young people. Bill will look into getting this started.
 - This would be a great collaborative exploring the impact on people's lives that could be woven in with activities taking place at the College and KVM.
- Sonya's girl's travel club has done coloring books (available on Amazon) and mini documentary videos, which helped keep them engaged. This could be a way to revive the Douglass Center area of the KVM. This would be a good way to keep the area relevant.
 - We did a project with Sid Ellis recently—a dramatic reenactment. Every ten years, we look at updating our major galleries, so we're due to look at how to transform the history gallery to keep it relevant. Tammy Barnes will be involved in that update.
 - Bill will reach out to Annette Hoppenworth to see if the coloring book could be added to any upcoming programs such as Storytelling Festival.

5. Next Meeting – April 6, 2021 @ 5:30 PM (Future Meeting – July 6, 2021)

6. Adjournment

MAT Attendance	October-19	January-20	April-20	July-20	October-20	A=Absent
						P=Present
Blanchard	P	P	P	P	A	
Ferraro	P	A	P	P	A	
Fullerton	P	P	A	A	P	
Hollins	A	P	P	P	P	
Lee		A	P	P	A	
Justice	P	A	A	A	P	
Morehouse	P	P	P	A	P	
Stinson	A	P	P	P	A	