

Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Arcadia Commons Campus

Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Advisory Team

5:30 PM

January 9, 2018

Present: C. Baker, L. Baker, Deittrick, Hollins, Jbara, Laabs, McElhone, Stinson

Absent: Baskerville-Jones, Johnson, Larson

1. Acceptance of the Agenda
 - The Agenda was accepted as presented.
2. Acceptance of the Minutes – October 3, 2017
 - The Minutes were accepted as presented.
3. Informational Updates
 - Juamaine Douglas is new Interpretation Specialist staff member. IS Staff members staff the floor and help guide guests.
 - December numbers are slightly down; school groups didn't visit due to the closing of the Challenger Learning Center and severe weather.
 - Web visits are slightly down in December.
 - Holiday Happenings took place in the MJST over holiday break.
 - Fretboard Play-In Contest: Cosmic Knot and Sarah Lynn Band were winners. They will perform in the Fret Festival and will be contracted later for a performance.
 - Chili Cook-off on January 27 will offer vegan chili.
 - Spring Break Hands-On Happenings take place during KRESA spring break.
 - Storytelling Festival is February 2-3.
 - 13th Annual Fretboard Festival is March 2-3.
 - Foodways Symposium is April 6-7.
 - Statewide Astronomy Night is April 20.
 - FY18 projects all completed or underway except computers scheduled for replacement in office workstations and exhibits.
 - New gun storage has been installed in Collections.
 - Official opening of Innovation Gallery was December 7, 2017.
 - New office spaces have been created upstairs, and doors were installed today.
 - DEQ project in front of the KVM is complete, and plantings were done before the freeze. As an educational piece, an outdoor sign will be created, as well as a description of the rain garden in the lobby.
 - ProCo exhibit is open until Fretboard Festival.

- Hateful Things is closing January 15, has been generally well received. Dr. Michelle Johnson will be speaking about genealogy January 14.
- Guitar exhibit closed Sunday and will be shipped out this weekend to make way for Top Secret: License to Spy on January 28.
- Golden Books exhibit is opening January 27.
- Expectations for MAT members and Museum Staff were shared.
- Draft of Strategic Initiatives was shared; list will be sent to members when it is finalized.
- Volunteer Newsletter was shared, with opportunities to volunteer at programs this spring.

4. Advisor Discussion

- Kids could win free planetarium tickets or other items by taking quizzes; this could be posted online and/or given to teachers.
- Tower area is underused, and we could put up photos relating to museON. Sonya received a lot of feedback about her girls' photos. The community could also submit photos or "curate" an exhibit.
 - Tower is a beautiful space but hard to program in because temp fluctuates and there's a lot of sunlight.
- Grad department at WMU could put projects or photos up.
 - The monitors may be removed; they are difficult to change and hard to look at because they're so high.
- Where are we on presidential search?
 - No information at this time.
- Have you ever done a community survey?
 - Perception study was done by marketing department, and we're looking into doing a more museum-focused survey along with the updated Strategic Plan.
- Does the "elite" group for events still exist?
 - Museum Explorers events were not well attended, so the program was canceled, but we still email events if you give us your email on the website.
- We could send a survey out to collected email recipients.
- Many people can't get to the Museum. How could we get them here to inspire kids?
 - Museum Explorers was trying to do that, but it was unsuccessful. Our programming team will continue to look at that issue.
- Outreach to kids with small elements of exhibits could draw them here. Connecting with churches could help. We could have an open room for a specific topic, and people could bring items in—a community-based presentation or exhibit. Churches could help come up with an exhibit or spread info about exhibits or programs.

5. Next Meeting – April 3, 2018 @ 5:30 PM (date subject to change)

6. Adjournment