MINUTES

Asian Art Commission – Ethics Committee Wednesday, July 19, 2017,11:00 am - 12:00 pm Orange Conference Room, 4th Floor

Asian Art Museum, 200 Larkin Street, San Francisco, California

Present: Alexander D. Calhoun, Chair

Nanci Nishimura

Jane Tom

Absent: Anthony Sun

Brenda Wright

Others Present: Laura Allen

Joanne Chou Forrest McGill Kim Bush Tomio

Jay Xu

Fan Jeremy Zhang Laura Hathhorn

Call to Order

Chair Alexander D. Calhoun called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m., a quorum being present.

Minutes from the September 20, 2016 Ethics Committee meeting were approved.

Forrest McGill presented on the history of six Brundage Collection objects from Thailand in the museum's collection that the museum recently learned were expected to be requested by the government of Thailand for possible repatriation. He also noted potential additional requests in the future. Forrest reported that the City Attorney has been notified and kept apprised in all phases of the situation. Mr. Calhoun noted no action was required that day, but he said the committee and the museum should be prepared to respond appropriately when a formal request comes. He noted the City Attorney's Office would be the principal agency to advise the museum, and he requested that staff keep the committee updated at future meetings.

Following-up on discussion from the September 20, 2016 meeting regarding special loan conditions, Kim Bush Tomio reviewed special conditions for incoming loans as well as loans from living artists, advising the committee that the special conditions had been established based on best practices. The committee suggested slight changes to the document and approved the language as so modified. Ms. Tomio noted she would circulate the modified "Special Conditions for Incoming Loans" document as approved following the meeting. For information purposes, Ms. Tomio advised the committee about language on loan agreement forms for domestic and international loans, including language on acts of terrorism, and she spoke about insurance issues.

The committee discussed an upcoming small exhibition of works by contemporary scholar-artist Fu Shen to be lent by the artist. Jay Xu gave a presentation on the artist and his works. Following thorough discussion, the Committee requested further investigation regarding controversial reports that could affect the proposed exhibition. [Note: on August 15, 2017, Mr. Calhoun circulated an email to the Committee informing them of the results of further research, explaining details and noting the conclusion that the issue was satisfactorily resolved.]

Public Comment – Members of the public were invited to address the Commission on items that were within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Asian Art Commission Ethics Committee. The public may address the Committee for up to three minutes and the chair may limit total testimony to thirty minutes.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.