

National Portrait Gallery

Minutes of the 777th Meeting of the Board of Trustees held at the National Portrait Gallery, London WC2 on 3 July, 2019

PRESENT:	Mr David Ross	(Chair)
	Dr Brian Allen	
	Ms Allegra Berman	
	Mr Roger Blundell	(to item 6)
	Mr Rob Dickins	
	Mr Marcus Harling	
	Dr Joanna Kennedy	
	Mr Christopher le Brun	
	Mr Bjorn Saven	
	Sir Peter Stothard	
	Dr Andrew Roberts	
	Mr Christopher Townsend	
	Ms Rachel Wang	
	Professor Shearer West	
	Mr Jonathan Yeo	
APOLOGIES:	Sir Michael Hintze	
	The Rt Hon Mel Stride MP	
IN ATTENDANCE:	Dr Nicholas Cullinan	Director
	Mrs Pim Baxter	Deputy Director and Secretary to the Board
	Ms Lornette Pemberton	HR Director (item 1 only)
	Ms Lesley Williams	Chief Financial Officer
	<i>[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Data]</i>	

1. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed The Rt Hon Mel Stride MP as the Gallery's new ex officio Trustee.
- 1.2 The Chair reported that applications were sought for a Trustee to replace Allegra Berman. It was hoped to find a Trustee with business experience. Trustees noted that experience of major projects and transformational change would also be useful.
- 1.3 The Director, Deputy Director, Chief Financial Officer, *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Data]* left the room. The Remuneration Committee recommendation was given in private.

The Director, Deputy Director, Chief Financial Officer, *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Data]*, rejoined the meeting.

The HR Director left the meeting.
- 1.4 Trustees discussed the upcoming Strategic Away Day in September. The Board would be joined by *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Data]*, and would receive an informal Q&A session on

[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Commercial Interests] by *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Personal Data]*. It was agreed more information about the away day would be sent via email.

Actions: All / Board Secretary

1.5 *Joanna Kennedy left the meeting.*

Trustees appointed Joanna Kennedy as Deputy Chair.

Joanna Kennedy rejoined the meeting.

1.6 Those Trustees able to attend had before the meeting received a presentation on exhibitions and the national, international and exhibitions programmes. Trustees had discussed whether and how to target particular audiences for exhibitions and how better to reach audiences outside London and the South East. Trustees asked the Team to consider how to continue to make the Gallery's willingness to lend and collaborate better known. The Team should also plan ambitious exhibitions to launch the Gallery post *Inspiring People*. The programmes would be brought back for Trustee discussion in early 2020.

Actions: ED, Programmes and Partnerships

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Except as previously declared by Trustees, there were no conflicts of interest to be declared in respect of the business of the meeting.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the 776th meeting held on Wednesday 15 May, 2019 were agreed by the Trustees and signed by the Chair.

4. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

5.1 The Director presented his report. The Director updated Trustees on several meetings with DCMS which had taken place since the last Board, including meetings of the DCMS Arm's Length Bodies (ALB) Chairs & Chief Executives and the National Museum Director's Council (NMDC) as well as a meeting with the Mayor of London. The Director noted that the Spending Review was now expected to take place next year.

5.2 Recruitment for a Director of Development was underway and the COO recruitment was ongoing. The Director noted that the Gallery also sought an Interim Project Manager for *Inspiring People*.

5.3 The Director reported that due to the changes in Government, The Rt Hon Mel Stride MP had become an ex-officio Trustee, as the new Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons. Rebecca Pow MP was the new Minister for the Arts at DCMS, replacing Michael Ellis MP.

Secretary's note – Subsequently to the meeting, The Rt Hon Jacob Rees-Mogg MP was appointed Lord President of the Council and thus an ex-officio National Portrait Gallery Trustee on 24 July 2019.

5.4 *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 36 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Effective Conduct of Public Affairs].*

5.5 The Director thanked Allegra Berman for her contribution to the work of the Board.

6. OFFERS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 Dr Alison Smith, Chief Curator, presented the works on offer.

The works consisted of a bronze bust of Sir Ben Helfgott by Frances Segelman, three works by Leonard McComb, a pastel, pencil and gold leaf on paper portrait of Carel Weight, an oil on canvas self-portrait and an oil painting of Alfie Howard, five photographs by Martin Parr and a photograph of Eric Cantona by William Klein.

6.2 The Trustees noted that the portraits of Sir Ben Helfgott, Eric Cantona, Gordon Banks and Paul Stephenson were offered under Rule Three.

**The Trustees may consider the admission of portraits of persons of eminence, whether living or deceased within the previous five years. As to portraits of the living, if a person is not already represented in the [Primary] Collection, and if so many as three Trustees shall personally at the meeting, or previously by letter, state their dissent to the acquisition of a portrait, no portrait of that person should be considered by the Trustees for a period of three years from that date.*

6.3 It was agreed that the Offers paper would specify to which works rule three applied going forward. The current criteria and rules for acquisitions would be brought to the next meeting.

Actions: Chief Curator

6.4 The Trustees APPROVED the acquisition of the portraits on the appended list.

Roger Blundell left the meeting

7. ANNUAL REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

7.1 The Chief Financial Officer presented the annual report and accounts and highlighted key areas for Trustee information. The Audit and Risk Committee had recommended that the financial statements be approved.

7.2 It was noted that not all Trustees had yet completed and submitted an entry to the Register of Interests and that this would be dealt with after the meeting and prior to the accounts being signed.

7.3 Subject to the above, the Board approved the annual report and accounts, the statement of Trustees' and Director's Responsibilities, the Governance Statement and a letter of representation to be sent to the Comptroller and Auditor General and authorised the Chair and/or the Director to sign each as the case may be.

Action: Chief Financial Officer

7.4 Trustees requested guidance for completing the Register of Interests for 2019-20, which was agreed.

Action: Chief Financial Officer

7.5 Trustees asked that their thanks to Lesley Williams for her hard work in improving the form and content of the report and accounts be recorded.

8. BANKING, STATUTORY AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 8.1 A banking, statutory and administrative report was taken as read.
- 8.2 The Board approved a proposal that *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Law Enforcement]* be passed upon amendment of a bank mandate.
- 8.3 The Board then confirmed *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 31 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Law Enforcement]*.
- 8.4 It was noted that Kim Evans, had stepped down from the *Inspiring People* Project Board and Trustees appointed Jonathan Yeo to the committee.
- 8.5 Trustees approved a proposal *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Future Publication]*.
- 8.6 Trustees noted the newly published Code of Conduct for Board Members of Public Bodies.

9. ACQUISITION AND COMMISSIONING STRATEGY

- 9.1 Dr Alison Smith and Sarah Howgate rejoined the meeting and presented the acquisition and commissioning strategies to the Board, in addition to an update on current and future commissions.
- 9.2 Trustees were invited to nominate potential sitters for future commissions, noting that funding would be required to take these forward. The Curatorial team would create a shortlist based on these suggestions, as well as their own research and discussions.
- 9.3 Trustees requested further information about areas of achievement for sitters, as well as analysis of any gaps in the Gallery's Collection, to be circulated in advance of the next Board meeting. Trustees would then submit their nominations (or endorsements from the existing list) to Alison Smith after the next Board meeting in November. Trustees requested that the current selection criteria be circulated with the proposed nominations for discussion at the next meeting.
- 9.4 Sarah Howgate presented an update on current commissions.

Actions: Chief Curator

10. STORAGE REVIEW

- 10.1 Sarah Tinsley, Executive Director, Programmes and Partnerships and Edward Purvis, Head of Collections, joined the meeting. Sarah Tinsley presented options for storage of the Gallery's Collection in the short, medium and long term. Trustees noted that storage was a sector-wide problem. In the meantime, Trustees approved the team's suggested approach and it was agreed that storage would be discussed again at the next Board meeting in November.

11. INSPIRING PEOPLE UPDATE

- 11.1 Pim Baxter reported on the progress of the *Inspiring People* project.
- 11.2 *[INFORMATION REDACTED in accordance with section 43 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Commercial Interests]*; following submission of the Round 2 application, an NLHF site visit was confirmed for 18 July and £31.7m of the total £35.5m had been raised.
- 11.3 Joanna Kennedy reported that the Trading Company Board would continue to advise on the Retail and Catering proposals.

12. FINANCE REPORT

- 12.1 Lesley Williams presented the Finance Report. Trustees agreed that the new format of the Report was much improved and asked that it include online sales going forward.

Action: Chief Financial Officer

13. HUMAN RESOURCES REVIEW

- 13.1 The HR Director was unwell and unable to present. The report would be brought back to the next meeting for discussion.

Action: Board Secretary

14. COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Chairs of Board Sub- Committees reported on the business undertaken at meetings since the last meeting of the Trustees. No areas of concern had been raised.

15. QUESTIONS ON REPORTS FOR READING

The following reports were taken as read, and no issues of concern were raised: (a) Development Report (b) Exhibitions and Displays Report, (c) Estates & Operations Report, (d) External Relations Report, (e) Update on Commissions, (f) Learning Report, and (g) Loans Out.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

17. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees would be held on Wednesday 6 November, 2019.

David P. J. Ross

Chair

6 November 2019

Date

Appended list of portraits on offer

SIR BEN HELFGOTT, Olympic weightlifter, Holocaust survivor and educator, painted bronze by Frances Segelman, 2018

Offered as a gift by the Yad Vashem UK Foundation, accepted

CAREL WEIGHT, Painter, pastel, pencil and gold leaf on paper, by Leonard McComb, 1990

Offered as a gift by the Leonard McComb Estate, accepted

LEONARD MCCOMB ('Self-Portrait'), Artist, Oil on canvas by Leonard McComb, 2002

Offered as a gift by the Leonard McComb Estate, accepted

ALFIE HOWARD ('Portrait of Alfie Howard Town Crier by Lambeth Bridge'), Lambeth Town Crier,

Oil on canvas by Leonard McComb, 2003

Offered as a gift by the Leonard McComb Estate, accepted

GORDON BANKS, Football player, Inkjet print by Martin Parr, 2003

Offered as a gift in kind by the artist, accepted

GRAYSON PERRY, PHILIPPA PERRY AND FLORENCE PERRY ('The Perry Family'), Artist and Royal Academician; Psychotherapist and author; Daughter, Inkjet print by Martin Parr, 2012

Offered as a gift in kind by the artist, accepted

BRUCE REYNOLDS, Criminal mastermind of the Great Train Robbery of 1963, Inkjet print by Martin Parr, 1998

Offered as a gift in kind by the artist, accepted

PAUL STEPHENSON, Activist and Civil Rights campaigner, Inkjet print by Martin Parr, 2008

Offered as a gift in kind by the artist, accepted

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD, Fashion designer, Inkjet print by Martin Parr, 2012

Offered as a gift in kind by the artist, accepted

ERIC CANTONA, Footballer and actor, Chromogenic print by William Klein, 2004

Offered as a gift by the artist and HackelBury Fine Art, accepted

David P. J. Ross

Chair

6 November 2019

Date