Reynolda House Museum of American Art

Collections Management Policy ADDENDUM


The following interim guidelines amend Reynolda House Museum of American Art’s Collections Management Policy regarding use of deaccession proceeds through April 10, 2022.

In accordance with the Association of Art Museum Directors temporary policies that were enacted in April 2020 and will be in effect through April 10, 2022, as well as with existing American Alliance of Museums guidelines, the following interim policies and procedures will govern Reynolda House’s use of proceeds from deaccessioned objects.

Use of Proceeds

Notwithstanding any other provision of the museum’s Collections Management Policy, and in accordance with long-standing American museum practice, legal parameters and museum ethical standards, all funds received from the sale of deaccessioned artworks shall be restricted to two activities. Firstly, as provided in the extant policy, they can be used to fund the acquisition of other works of art. Secondly, in accordance with the 24 month interim measures outlined in the April 10, 2020 Resolutions of the Board of Trustees of the Association of Art Museum Directors (COVID-19 Emergency Measures), they may also be used for the direct care of collections items as defined below. After April 10, 2022, in the absence of a renewal or extension of such AAMD resolution, this Addendum shall automatically expire.

Definition of Direct Care of Collections

Reynolda House defines direct care expenditures as investments in the existing collections that directly enhance the life, usefulness or quality of the collections, thereby ensuring they will continue to benefit the public. Reynolda House may use proceeds from deaccessioning for the following types of direct care activities, in order to benefit the long term care of, and access to, the collections in support of the museum’s mission. Direct care expenditures may include:

Costs associated with conservation of collection objects, object maintenance, analysis, treatment, surveying, and storage
Costs associated with materials and systems that benefit, or are required for conservation, maintenance, display, preservation, storage, and stewardship of collections

Costs associated with expert conservation, framing and storage services for the collections

Costs associated with fees for outside vendors and independent contractors providing direct care services for the collections

**Restrictions**

Proceeds from the sale of deaccessioned objects shall not be used for museum general operating expenses or capital improvements.

Proceeds shall be placed in a restricted fund and may be used for the purchase of objects for the collection in accordance with Reynolda House’s collections management policy or may be used for direct care of the collections as defined above.

**Process**

A staff committee, consisting of the museum’s executive director, deputy director, curator, and collections manager, will make determinations regarding the use of funds from deaccessioning to be used for direct care, in consultation with the museum’s director of finance and operations to confirm that such use complies with Financial Accounting Standards Board’s (FASB) March 2019 amendment. The staff committee shall then make recommendations to the Collections, Buildings, and Grounds Committee to use funds from deaccessioning for specific direct care initiatives. Upon that committee’s approval, the Collections, Buildings, and Grounds Committee would then seek full Board approval to pursue this course of action.