

History Sub-committee, Museum Advisory Committee

7th Meeting held on 7 October 2020

Summary of Discussion

1. Three Year Plans of the History Museums and Related Offices Managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

- 1.1 Members noted the three year plans of the history museums and other related offices managed by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD), including the annual programme plans for the year 2021-22 and the tentative programme plans for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24.
- 1.2 Members' discussion on the programme plans of the Hong Kong Museum of History (HKMH) and its branch museums mainly focused on the contents and the curatorial approach of the coming exhibitions and programmes, especially on comparing the lives and society of the current Hong Kong with the past, and highlighting the historical significance of Hong Kong as a global hub.
- 1.3 An LCSD representative thanked for members' suggestions and supplemented that HKMH would enhance Hong Kong's connection to the world at its new permanent exhibition through stories of Chinese diaspora and the diverse ethnic groups in Hong Kong.
- 1.4 Noting that an e-platform would be launched in November 2020, members suggested HKMH consider a user-friendly interface fitting different age groups, utilise it for curating online exhibitions and programmes for the public, schools and other interested parties, and attract global audiences to Hong Kong history and culture. Statistical data such as the number of visitors should be collected for review of the e-platform.
- 1.5 An LCSD representative thanked members for the suggestions and HKMH would also explore the possibility of organising live-streaming interactive educational activities through online platform.
- 1.6 Members suggested the Hong Kong Heritage Museum (HKHM) remain open with special admission arrangement and provide a virtual tour of the new exhibitions in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members were also concerned about the effectiveness of the three membership programmes, namely *Musekid*, *MuseTeen* and *Art Buddies*. HKHM should consider exploring collaborations with the Education Bureau (EDB), schools and other non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
- 1.7 An LCSD representative replied that virtual tours of some past exhibitions could be found in HKHM's website. The three membership programmes had been well-received, among which the *Musekid* programme had attracted over 20,000

members since it launched. HKHM would continue to establish collaborations with universities, EDB, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, etc.

2. Latest Progress of Revamping of the Permanent Exhibitions in the Hong Kong Museum of History and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence

- 2.1 Members were briefed on the latest progress of revamping of the permanent exhibitions in HKMH and the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence.
- 2.2 Members suggested HKMH increase the number of ancient artefacts, utilise state-of-the-art technology such as 3D scanning and visualisation to showcase artefacts, and consider donating some of the replica and props of the old *Hong Kong Story* exhibition to NGOs for educational purposes.
- 2.3 An LCSD representative responded that HKMH had been identifying new artefacts from different sources, including the newly excavated relics. HKMH had been arranging donation of replica and props to schools. LCSD would explore the feasibility of loaning some replica and props to NGOs through collaborations.

3. Lessons Learnt from Revamping of the Hong Kong Railway Museum

- 3.1 Members noted the presentation on lessons learnt from revamping of the Hong Kong Railway Museum and appreciated the persevering efforts of LCSD to overcome the challenges in refurbishing and transiting the train cabin.

Secretariat
Museum Advisory Committee
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