

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MUSCATINE ART CENTER
August 18, 2022**

Present: Sara Fitzer-Huston, Mark Latta, Vince Lawson, David Meloy, Mark Seaman, and Brian Walter

Absent: Geri Kent, Laurie Johnson and Aarzoo Baharani

Staff: Melanie Alexander

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Latta at 5:30 PM.

Visitors: None present.

Minutes: Minutes of July 22, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (Meloy/Lawson) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$5,917.66 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded Seaman/Walter) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: Credit card bills in the amount of \$102.15 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded Meloy/Lawson) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

The final Accreditation report was submitted to the Accreditation Commission on August 11th. The Commission will review materials at its meeting in October. We should hear something from them in mid-November.

Finance & Budget:

Nothing new to report.

Collections:

Jim Burr's sisters have begun bringing items over for possible donations.

Building & Grounds:

The State Historic Preservation Office has requested an additional drawing from Aunt Rhodie's. The landscape firm is currently preparing the drawing that is to show the trees that are to remain as well as the new plantings. No additional information has been received from the National Park Service.

Additional security cameras and other security related improvements are planned. The quotes are being reviewed by Public Works.

Community Engagement:

The booklet on the Japanese Garden is close to being finished.

The staff has spent months preparing for several exhibitions that highlight objects from the permanent collection. "Captivated by Japan" includes many graphic text panels, object cases, and installations highlighting Laura Musser McColm's household items and clothing that were inspired by Japanese design. Consultant Beth Cody,

along with an outside source with expertise in kimonos, aided the staff as text was written and objects were selected.

Artifacts from the Norman Baker Collection will be presented alongside the graphic non-fiction illustrations of Sean Fitzgibbon who created the book, "What Follows is True: The Crescent Hotel." The Crescent was Norman Baker's cancer hospital in Arkansas. The second floor of the historic house will also be installed with additional items connected to the currently on view, "Great Leaders of the Indian Nations."

Finally, the staff is working with Kristin McHugh-Johnston to present selections from her Kokeshi collection in the showcases in the Linkage.

New this year is the Community Stage offered in partnership with the Muscatine County Arts Council on August 18th from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on the grounds on the Muscatine Art Center. The Ice Cream Social is on August 21st from 1 to 4 p.m., and volunteers are always needed and appreciated. Crusin' and the Muscatine Civic Chorale will perform. Kent Corporation is the event sponsor.

The Chamber of Commerce has led efforts to secure Muscatine as a stop for the American Queen. After confirming that the boats can dock and unload in Muscatine, the tour group is arranging two pilot stops with a load of passengers.

The Friends of the Muscatine Art Center is presenting the radio show, "Encore for Murder: The Adventures of Mickey Spillane's Mike Hammer," on Saturday, September 17th at 7 p.m. at the Muscatine High School Auditorium. The show was written by Max Allan Collins who is co-producing the performance. Gary Sandy, of WKRP in Cincinnati fame, will star in the show alongside Muscatine area actors. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$50 for premium seating and entrance to the After Party where attendees can socialize with Max Collins and Gary Sandy and enjoy dessert and other treats at the Merrill. Proceeds benefit Friends and the educational mission of the Muscatine Art Center.

Personnel:

Memorial donations for Jim Burr are being deposited into the Muscatine Art Center Support Foundation Fund held at the Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine.

Our summer intern, Jessica Meyers did a great job.

Director's Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Next Board meeting – September 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn:

Moved/seconded (Latta/Huston) to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sara Fitzer-Huston
Secretary