

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MUSCATINE ART CENTER
February 16, 2023**

Present: Aarzoo Baharani, Mark Latta, David Meloy, Brian Walter, and Vince Lawson online due to weather.

Absent: Geri Kent, Sara Fitzer-Huston, Mark Seaman, and Laurie Johnson.

Staff: Melanie Alexander

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Latta at 5:34 PM.

Visitors: None present.

Minutes: Minutes of January 19, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (Meloy/Walter) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$2,119.96 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Walter/Lawson) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: Credit card bills in the amount of \$35.00 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Baharani/Meloy) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

Alexander presented the budget to the council and there was no funding for the marketing portion. The staff is working on job task analysis for Human Resources to address staff and their pay grade.

Finance & Budget:

The annual meeting of the Support Foundation board was on February 8. Keith Porter has joined the board. Mark Latta, as President, is the representative for the Board of Trustees. Alexander presented the Support Foundation with our budget request. The budget was approved as presented.

We have submitted a grant request to the Quad City Arts Council for Arts Dollars. If received this will be a series of performances.

Alexander has also submitted the financial standards forms to the Community Foundation for the Muscatine Art Center and the Friends of the Muscatine Art Center. This is required by the Community Foundation before actual grant writing.

Collections: No report

Building & Grounds:

Building and Grounds is replacing old plumbing in the historic house. The water in the mansion has been shut off to accommodate this. Once they are finished downstairs, they will move upstairs. They are unsure of what to expect in the plumbing there. They feel there is at least a month's worth of work. New cameras are in the budget and will be installed by Midwest Alarm Services. More cameras and a buzz-in door on the Stanley gallery end are in the budget. They will be on-site on February 22 and begin work in March.

Community Engagement:

Several upcoming programs are connected to the “Faces of Hope” exhibition and Black History Month. On February 23rd, the University of Iowa’s Darwin Turner Action Theatre (formerly the Black Action Theatre) will perform. Global Education at Stanley Center is partnering with us to bring the group to Muscatine. The group will spend the school day presenting to students followed by the evening performance at the Muscatine Art Center. On March 23, Bob Campagna will share his memories of the Clark House. A mix of adult, family, and kids programs will also be presented in February and March. The reception for Art Array 2023 will be held on March 16 (the same evening as the Board of Trustees meeting).

On February 16th, Dan Clark and author Rachelle Chase were to share details on projects related to telling the Alexander Clark story. The event was canceled but will be rescheduled at a later date.

The exhibition of Marc Sijan’s Ultra-Realistic Sculptures is now on view while Bob Campagna’s “Faces of Hope” will open on February 16th. Staff is also working with the Muscatine County Arts Council to prepare for Art Array 2023, on view on the second floor of the historic house starting on March 16th.

Caturday, was last Saturday and was well attended.

Dr. Baller from Bloomington, Illinois will be here next Tuesday. He has a collection of prints by Picasso we may use for an upcoming exhibition.

Staff is working on the exhibition schedule and mapping out local exhibitions including Muscatine History and Muscatine in the Civil War.

The American Queen has three trips this year to Muscatine, two are in July and one is in September.

Personnel:

The next board meeting is during Spring Break and Melanie is on vacation. The Art Array reception is on the same evening.

Director’s Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

Sara will be moving off the Board in June of 2023. We will be looking for a replacement.

New Business:

Next Board meeting – March 16, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourn:

Moved/seconded by (Lawson/Walter) to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Aarzoo Baharani
Acting Secretary