



City of Muscatine

ART CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

Thursday, October 19, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Latta called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

2. **VISITOR SPEAK**

No visitors.

3. *** APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A. October 19 2023

Bills in the amount of \$31,787.70 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Walter/Seaman) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

4. **CREDIT CARD APPROVAL**

A. Credit Card - Lynn

A credit card in the amount of \$689.86 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Baharani/Haltmeyer) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

B. Credit Card - Melanie

A credit card in the amount of \$21.21 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (McCarthy/Walter) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

5. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Long Range Planning

Site Visit – Lord Cultural Resources

Lord Cultural Resources did a walk through of the Art Center last night. they have been doing interviews today and will also be interviewing tomorrow.

B. Finance & Budget

No report.

C. Collections

Additions to the Collection

The Art Center received a donation to purchase "Huck Finn" by Thomas Hart Benton and also another donation to purchase "The Curry Farm" by John Steuart Curry.

D. Building & Grounds

Japanese Garden

Facility Rental Discussion

There will be two meetings about organizing the group, Friends of the Japanese Garden. The first is November 2 at 4:30 and the second is November 8 at noon.

There are signs on order for the Japanese Garden pertaining to not climbing the rocks and staying off the plants.

Public Works has volunteered to remove the fencing in front. Latta will just remove it flush to the ground.

There was discussion on Facility Rental adjustments.

E. Community Engagement

Holiday Fundraiser

Upcoming Events

Riverboat Cruises

The Heartfelt and Handmade Ornament competition is returning with entries due on or before November 1st. The first opportunity to purchase ornaments is during the Holiday Open House on December 7th. Tickets to the open house are \$20 for Friends members and \$25 for non-members before or on December 1st. After December 1st, all tickets are \$35. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places as well as a People's Choice Award. Sponsors are SSAB, HNI Corporation, and Kay Chapman, CPA.

The International Writing Program (University of Iowa) will have two program participants give readings on Thursday, October 19th. This is a first-time collaboration with the International Writing Program, and the plan is to collaborate again in 2024. On October 26th, the visual artist Kevin Reese will create a moving sculpture working with the general public, including kids. The event is part of the Quad City Arts Visiting Artist Program. Leadership Muscatine has returned this fall. The group will tour the Muscatine Art Center on November 10th.

The Muscatine Chamber of Commerce has secured a contract with American Cruise Lines to host 10 boats in Muscatine between May and October 2024. This

is a new contract. Over the last two years, boats with American Cruise Lines have stopped in Muscatine.

F. Personnel

Muscatine County Youth Board

Local efforts are underway to introduce high school students to the work of volunteer boards and commissions. The organizers would like to know if the Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees would be willing to have a student observe, and perhaps participate in some manner.

6. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

A. October 19, 2023 in packet.

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Next Board meeting – November 16th at 5:30 p.m.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved/seconded by (Walter/Seaman) to adjourn. The motion was carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.