

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MUSCATINE ART CENTER**

May 16, 2024

Present: Mark Latta, Brian Walter, Aarzoo Baharani, Mark Seaman, and Vince Lawson

Absent: Kathleen Haltmeyer, David Meloy, Ann McCarthy, and Geri Kent

Staff: Melanie Alexander

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Latta at 5:30.

Visitors: None present.

Minutes: Minutes of the April 19, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (Lawson/Walter) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$2,127.71 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Walter/Lawson) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: A credit card in the amount of \$330.00 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Seaman, Baharani) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: A credit card in the amount of \$75.00 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Baharani/Walter) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: A credit card in the amount of \$778.65 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Walter/Seaman) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

Executive Committee met to discuss next steps now that report from Lord Cultural Resources is final and updated plans have been received from Midwest Storage Solutions. Their findings were shared with the entire board.

Finance & Budget:

The Cultural Leadership Partner (CLP) grant was awarded in the amount of \$15,000 per year for the next three years. Grant reports were submitted for the Impact grant (Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine) for the Art Center (museum planning) and for Friends (children's programs).

Collections:

The portrait of Annie Musser Huttig (Laura's sister) is in Cincinnati where conservator, Terry Boyle will clean the painting and repair the frame. The painting is intended to go on public view for the first time at the end of June 2024.

Building & Grounds:

The ribbon cutting for the Japanese Garden and Japanese storyteller performance on May 2nd was well attended and publicized.

Community Engagement:

The Friends of the Muscatine Art Center first fundraiser of 2024. The “For the Love of Art” Tea sold out.

Staff gave a presentation on the history of the garden and its rehabilitation process to Colonial Dames on April 10th and will give similar presentations to the Muscatine Garden Club on May 18th and the Tipton Garden Club on May 28th. The Tri City Garden Club has booked a tour and presentation in October 2025.

The first of ten stops for American Cruise Lines will take place on Monday, June 17th. The Muscatine Art Center is one of three bus stops organized for the passengers of boat.

The Muscatine Art Center, the Muscatine County Arts Council, and the Muscatine Symphony Orchestra are working together to bring two-time Grammy award winner, Terrance Simien and the Zydeco Experience, to Muscatine on Friday, June 7th.

Personnel:

The Board discussed adjusting the standard meeting time to better accommodate board attendance. The City’s Nominating Committee will meet on May 23rd to review the applications. One person has applied. Their recommendations will then be presented to City Council in early June. Board members can serve up to two terms of three years.

The Iowa Arts Council has asked Alexander to present on endowments as part of a panel discussion during the Iowa Arts Summit on June 18th in Ankeny. The Iowa Arts Council is providing a stipend to cover travel expense. Katy Loos may also attend the summit. Alexander will also attend the Preserve Iowa Summit on June 6th in Mount Pleasant.

Both a primary education intern and a secondary project intern have been selected for summer 2024.

Director’s Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Next Board meeting – June 20, 2024 at 5:30 P.M.

Adjourn:

Moved/seconded by (Walter/Lawson) to adjourn at 6:16 P.M. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Aarzo Baharani
Secretary
Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees