

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

June 20, 2024

Present: Mark Latta, Brian Walter, Geri Kent, Kathleen Haltmeyer, Ann McCarthy, and Vince Lawson

Absent: David Meloy, Mark Seaman, and Aarzoo Baharani

Staff: Melanie Alexander

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Latta at 12:00 PM.

Visitors: None present.

Minutes: Minutes of the May 16, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (Kent/Lawson) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$4,547.26 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Walter/McCarthy) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: A credit card in the amount of \$60.00 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (McCarthy/Haltmeyer) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: A credit card in the amount of \$1527.96 was presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Kent/Haltmeyer) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

A presentation to City Council will be made during the September in-depth session. Public information sessions will be scheduled for September. In addition, an architect with Neumann Monson (architects for the Stanley Center's building) visited on June 11th to look at the building location.

There is support for repurposing the Stanley Gallery with visible storage on the second floor.

Finance & Budget:

Three grant applications were submitted for the Impact grant (Community Foundation of Greater Muscatine) for the Art Center (Muscatine History exhibit and docent program), for Friends (expansion of Mini Masters including a Spanish language version), and public art (painting of mural by Laura Palmer).

In addition, assistance was provided to the Muscatine County Arts Council on an application for an Iowa Arts Council project grant for artist Laura Palmer to work with students in the SPARK summer program to design a mural.

Collections:

The Cincinnati Art Galleries completed the cleaning of the portrait of Annie Musser Huttig, as well as restoration of the frame. The painting was delivered back to the Muscatine Art Center on June 6th and will be on view as part of the Fashionably Dressed exhibition.

The database switch over is a long-term project that may involve a grant. Collections Committee will review options.

Building & Grounds:

The Japanese garden volunteers have done a great job. They are sometimes here two times a week. Preservation Iowa recognized the rehabilitation of the garden with a Preservation at its Best award during the Preserve Iowa Summit on June 6th. The garden was one of seven projects to receive an award. Muscatine will host the summit in 2025. A press release was distributed across the state, and WQAD aired a segment on the garden.

Parks and Rec has set up a Day of Caring workday on June 26th. They plan to weed and mulch many areas of the property.

Community Engagement:

A collaboration with Diversity Service Center of Iowa (DSCI) has been renewed. Participants in DSCI's Senior Program are being bused to the Art Center once per month to participate in studio activities. DSCI staff provides instruction in Spanish. The first session was held on May 17th.

Education staff at Iowa PBS has reached out to form a partnership to reach Spanish speaking families in Muscatine. A meeting has been set for the end of June.

The Muscatine Art Center is providing both outreach and fieldtrips for the SPARK summer school program.

A group of Model A car owners tour on July 14th.

The Friends of the Muscatine Art Center is holding the annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, June 30th from 1 to 4 PM.

The 60th Anniversary of the Muscatine Art Center is next year and we are considering commissioning a piece of artwork in recognition of the anniversary.

Personnel:

A motion was made by Walter to adjust the standard meeting time to noon on the third Thursday of the month to better accommodate board attendance. The motion was seconded by Haltmeyer. Motion carried unanimously.

The Iowa Arts Council asked Alexander to present on endowments as part of a panel discussion during the Iowa Arts Summit on June 18th in Ankeny.

Brian Walter is rolling off the Board of Trustees. This is his last meeting. He has had an amazing six years of service and will be greatly missed. Sara Fitzer-Huston will rejoin in July.

Director's Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Next Board meeting – July 18, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.

Adjourn:

Moved/seconded by (Walter/Lawson) to adjourn at 1:00 P.M. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McCarthy
Acting Secretary
Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees