

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

July 18, 2024

Present: Mark Latta, Sara Fitzner-Huston, Kathleen Haltmeyer, David Meloy, Ann McCarthy, Aarzoo Baharani, and Vince Lawson

Absent: Mark Seaman and Geri Kent

Staff: Melanie Alexander

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

Visitors: None present.

There was a motion to approve the list of officers as presented for 2023-2024 by McCarthy, seconded by Meloy. Motion carried. Those officers are: Mark Latta, President; Sara Fitzner-Huston, Vice-President; Mark Seaman, Treasurer; Aarzoo Baharani, Secretary.

Minutes: Minutes of the June 20, 2024, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (McCarthy/Haltmeyer) to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$6,857.65 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Meloy/Haltmeyer) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

A presentation to City Council on the Lord report will be made during the September in-depth session. The report has been shared with City Staff. Per the City, a formal RFQ will be needed.

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). We have not heard back on these grants yet.

Alexander has also filed the report for the Cultural Leadership Partners (CLP) grant.

Collections:

The Collections Committee recommended not to acquire the historical musical instrument as it does not connect to current Art Center collections.

Collections Committee members highlighted discussions on our current collections database program, Mimsy, and another program, PastPerfect. During the committee meeting, Loos presented pros and cons of each. A motion was made by Lawson to move forward with PastPerfect and was seconded by McCarthy. Motion carried.

Our 60th Anniversary is coming up in 2025, and a few ideas were presented: a watercolor triptych featuring images from the permanent collection, a painting of the Japanese Garden, and an invitation for local artists to complete one or more plein air paintings during the 2025 annual ice cream social.

Building & Grounds: No report

Community Engagement:

The Education Coordinator and intern have provided fieldtrips for all grade levels of summer school, approximately 400 students. In addition, the two visited Jefferson to provide outreach programs to kindergarten 18 times between June 20th and July 12th. During the week of July 15th, Coralville Center for Performing Arts is partnering with the Muscatine Art Center to provide a weeklong theater camp for kids. The project is funded by a grant from Quad City Arts.

Art teachers Mary Alice Sessler and Nancy Foxen return for mini camps the week of July 22nd.

The American Cruise Lines visits scheduled for July 5th and 20th were cancelled due to flooding. So far, the July 30th stop has not been cancelled.

The Ice Cream Social was a success with a fantastic turnout and even better weather.

Personnel:

McCarthy made a motion to proceed to amend the by-laws to permanently change the monthly board meeting time to noon on the third Thursday of the month. The motion was seconded by Haltmeyer. Motion carried.

A custodian resigned, giving two weeks notice, and the position will be posted soon. Later this year, the other custodian intends to resign, and the new position is intended to be Maintenance Worker I to better reflect the duties and skills required.

Director's Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Next Board meeting – August 15, 2024 at 12:00 P.M.

Adjourn:

Moved/seconded by (Lawson/Baharani) to adjourn at 12:50 P.M. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Aarzoo Baharani
Secretary
Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees