

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MUSCATINE ART CENTER
September 18, 2025**

Present: Mark Seaman, Mark Post, Diana Tank, Kathleen Haltmeyer, Rebecca Schmertman, Laurie Johnson, and Vince Lawson.

Absent: David Meloy

Staff: Melanie Alexander

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Seaman at 12:00 PM. Seaman announced the resignation of Kelsie Foley.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 21, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees were reviewed and discussed. Moved/seconded (Haltmeyer/Tank) to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Bills for Approval: Bills in the amount of \$1739.744 were presented, reviewed, and discussed. Moved/seconded (Lawson/Schmertman) to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Credit Card for Approval: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long-Range Planning:

Seaman and Alexander had online meetings with two firms – Eden+ and de Novo Marketing. Eden+ has provided a proposal which will be distributed to the board and discussed at the October meeting. The Muscatine Art Center had been working with de Novo Marketing on a rebranding effort.

Finance & Budget:

The Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees is being asked to move its monthly meeting date to the third Tuesday of the month as a result of the City Council moving their Thursday meetings to Tuesday meetings. The proposed change would maintain the noon meeting time. The council's date will change with the first meeting in October.

Haltmeyer made a motion to move the Art Center Board meetings to the third Tuesday of the month. Seconded by Post. Motion carried.

Collections:

The Collections Committee will establish a meeting date for October and Alexander will email the date to members of the committee.

The staff will present the collections grading guidelines and a list of objects to consider for deaccession. The materials will be sent out about 10 days prior to the meeting. With Kelsie Foley submitting her resignation, Mark Post volunteered to fill her place on the Collections Committee.

Musser business and family records currently housed at the State Historical Society of Iowa's research center in Iowa City, which is slated for permanent closure on June 30, 2026, have been offered to the Muscatine Art Center. Alexander and Loos will travel to Iowa City to review the collection and provide a recommendation.

Building & Grounds:

The Building and Grounds Committee should meet in late October or early November to discuss updates to the facility rental/usage policy. Committee members are Vince Lawson (chair), Mark Post, and Mark Seaman (ex-officio). Members of the Engagement & Planning Committee will also review the policy prior to presenting it to the full board.

Community Engagement

The 60th anniversary event will be held on September 18th from 5 to 7 p.m. The event will include remarks, unveiling of the commissioned work by Kimble Bromley, a few silent auction items, the opening of the Midwest Icons exhibition, food/beverages catered by the Rendezvous, and “Jim Burr Historic Preservation” brew from Contrary. All board members are encouraged to attend.

The Midwest Icons exhibition will bring in fourth graders from the Muscatine Community School District. The first fieldtrip is scheduled for October 2nd. All six elementary schools are scheduled for the month of October.

August and September are particularly busy months for community outreach. The Education Coordinator has represented/will represent the Muscatine Art Center at the Back-to-School Expo, Community Block Party, City of Hope, and Viva Muscatine.

Personnel:

Virginia Cooper’s last day is September 22nd. Assistant Registrar Pat Carver will retire on November 7th. The six-month review for Education Coordinator Rachael Mullins has been completed.

Director’s Report: In Packet

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Next Board meeting – October 21, 2025 at 12:00 P.M.

Adjourn:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Vince Lawson
Secretary
Muscatine Art Center Board of Trustees