

Orange County Arts Commission

Minutes

January 14, 2008

Art Moment: Charles Hochman shared the Opera Company of NC's season program with the group.

Alice called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm. Attending were: Laurie Alexander, Wendy Gellert, Tammy Lambert, Robert Kintz, Alice Levinson, Geoffrey Hathaway, Dan Barker, Mary Harley Kruter, Charles Hochman, Mary Jane Felgenhauer, Shannon Jackson

Minutes: Robert Kintz moved to accept the December 2007 minutes as received, Geoffrey Hathaway seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Martha Shannon is still waiting on final information from David Price's office about accepting digital submission.

The group discussed the opportunity to have artists submit images and links to websites to occupy the 18 thumbnail spaces on the OCAC website homepage. There was some discussion about whether to have it as a competition or first-come basis submissions and how frequently to update the images or submissions. Laurie Alexander will chair an ad-hoc committee with Dan Barker to discuss and propose a process for opening up this opportunity.

Seymour Center: Tammy Lambert indicated that the joint committee has met, and will need to have further discussions with the Friends group in order to determine what type of feature is to be considered and how to set priorities and funding strategies in order to open up a call to artists.

OCAC Retreat: Alice Levinson congratulated the group on a successful retreat and a report from Georgann Eubanks is forthcoming.

Robert Kintz opened a discussion on the grants award process with a question on whether the grants should be categorized and/or rotated to provide better opportunity and visibility for currently underserved artists groups. There was lengthy discussion about how to identify these groups, whether there should be a 'special considerations' focus in the grant cycle and whether applications should be 'encouraged' from particular groups. A broader discussion emerged about how these groups are identified, contacted and made aware of the opportunity to apply.

Mary Jane Felgenhauer made a motion and Robert Kintz seconded a motion that the application form contain a question asking applicants how they became aware of the grant, in order to collect data in the next cycle. Based on this information and information about how the grants are advertised, the group will re-address the questions of targeted submissions/applications after the next cycle. The motion passed with consensus.

Wendy Gellert suggested that we need additional information on how to expand the geographic outreach of the OCAC for grants. She will put together some thoughts on where information needs to go into the county. Cedar Grove, Schley were given as examples of potentially underserved areas.

New Business: Mary Harley Kruter updated the group on the search for space for the OCAC. She asked for a motion to support the executive board's desire to talk to the county manager. Mary Harley Kruter made a motion to allow the executive committee to advocate for more visible space for the arts commission office that could also include display space and host events if the appropriate space were available. The space would ideally be visible and accessible to the public. Robert Kintz seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Laurie Alexander made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm. Tammy Lambert seconded; motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Felgenhauer