

FROM: Orange County Arts Commission  
SUBJECT: Monthly Meeting  
DATE: May 12, 2014  
LOCATION: Century Center, Carrboro

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MEMBERS PRESENT: Lindsey Alexander, Kate Dickson, Brian Finch, Doris Friend, Geoffrey Hathaway, Deborah Hepp, Emily Lees, Alice Levinson, Allison Reavis, Devra Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ashley Nissler, Kathleen Ponder, Cher Tuskey

GUEST(S) PRESENT: Malena Smither

STAFF PRESENT: Martha Shannon

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Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Topic A

**Discussion Point:** Review of Oct., Nov., Dec., 2013; Jan., Feb., Mar., April 2014 Minutes

**Decision/Vote(s):** Discussion of minutes. No changes.

**Action Item:** Vote taken; minutes approved unanimously.

Topic B

**Discussion Point:** Director's Report

**Decision/Vote(s):** NC Arts Council is encouraging attendance on May 20<sup>th</sup> for the presentation of the NC Heritage Awards in Raleigh. Tickets are required. The name of Volunteer Applicant Malena Smither was submitted to the Clerk's Office for possible appointment by the BOCC at their June 3<sup>rd</sup> regular meeting. Festifall 2014 applications are due by May 30<sup>th</sup>. Article in May 7<sup>th</sup> Chapel Hill News on art by local Karen youth at FRANK gallery, one of OCAC's previous grant recipients. OCAC is advertising on WUNC this week for the May 16<sup>th</sup> Artists' Salon. At least 3x/day for a week of "PSA's" was \$996. The \$8,000 that the CHOCVB board voted to put toward our public art project in River Park was not included in the Interim County Manager's FY15 budget to the BOCC. Commissioners could request that it be put back into the 2015 budget, or we can pursue this public art project for funding in FY16. The Power Point presentation by Jeff York on Chapel Hill cultural arts is now available. We are still looking for applicants for the OCAC advisory board. Long time OCAC board member Alice Levinson will be leaving the board after the May, 2014 meeting.

**Action Item:** None

Topic C

**Discussion Point:** Conflict of Interest Policy for NC Arts Council

**Decision/Vote(s):** This item was discussed.

**Action Item:** Vote taken; item approved unanimously.

Topic D

**Discussion Point:** Committee Updates

**Decision/Vote(s):** Debbie Hepp reported on the April, 2014 Visitors Bureau board meeting. She reported that Commissioner Penny Rich had recommended talking to the Commissioners between now and October in order to be on the BOCC's agenda for public art in October, 2014. Chair Devra Thomas reported that Debbie Hepp, Kathleen Ponder and Devra Thomas (Allison Reavis will join them) have volunteered to serve on the Public Art ad hoc Committee. The public art piece was discussed briefly, and Devra Thomas stressed maintaining momentum with Commissioner Penny Rich and the Visitors Bureau. OCAC board members should meet with BOCC members to remind them about public art generally, and this piece in particular. Issue will be where the money comes from, not their support for public art in general. Doris Friend volunteered to speak with Bernadette Pelissier. Allison Reavis volunteered to talk to Mark Dorosin. Possible funders for this public art project include: BOCC, Visitors Bureau, Town of Hillsborough (through their Tourism grants, which tend to be around \$5,000), private individuals. In the past, our "partners" have matched money raised by the OCAC for various public art projects. Debbie Hepp (Lindsey Alexander will join her) has volunteered to serve on the Marketing ad hoc committee. In FY15 budget, Visitors Bureau has agreed to additional funds to generate a marketing campaign for the arts. At this point, it is believed that this Marketing plan would center on encouraging the use of the ExploreChapelHillARTS.com online art calendar.

**Action Item:** Allison Reavis volunteered to serve on the ad hoc Public Art Committee. Lindsey Alexander volunteered to serve on the ad hoc Marketing Committee.

#### Topic E

**Discussion Point:** Agenda Additions/New Business/Old Business

**Decision/Vote(s):** ARTS North Carolina (the statewide nonprofit arts advocacy agency) is sponsoring their annual ARTS Day event May 20-21, 2014 in Raleigh, offering advocacy training and meetings with members of the NC General Assembly. Everyone is encouraged to attend (there is a charge to attend). OCAC would like to schedule a board retreat by the end of June, 2014.

**Action Item:** Devra Thomas will send out a Doodle poll to the OCAC board to determine the best date/time for this board retreat. Brian Finch offered to host this board retreat at his home in Cedar Grove. This board retreat will be casual, and include a guest speaker.

#### Topic F

**Discussion Point:** Calendar Items

**Decision/Vote(s):** OCAC's June meeting will be June 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the Community Room at OWASA (400 Jones Ferry Road) in Carrboro. Pizza and soft drinks/water will be provided. Spring 2014 grant packets will be available by noon on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at the latest at the pickup locations listed in the May Director's Report. The Hillsborough Gallery of Art will be offering a juried exhibit for non-members. The call for art will be available shortly online.

**Action Item:** Devra Thomas volunteered to distribute grant packets to OCAC board members who live in northern Orange County.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM