

FROM: Orange County Arts Commission
SUBJECT: Monthly Meeting/Spring 2015 Grant Allocation
DATE: June 8, 2015
LOCATION: OWASA Meeting Room, Carrboro

MEMBERS PRESENT: Lynne Albert, Ian Bowater, Doris Friend, Geoffrey Hathaway, Deb Hepp, Tim Hoke, Tinka Jordy, Bronwyn Merritt, Ashley Nissler, Kim Roberts, Joy Salyers, Devra Thomas, Scott Van Manen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kate Dickson, Brian Finch

STAFF PRESENT: Martha Shannon

Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM

Topic A

Discussion Point: Review of May 2015 Minutes

Decision/Vote(s): Discussion of minutes

Action Item: May 2015 Minutes were approved.

Topic B

Discussion Point: Director's Report

Decision/Vote(s): OCAC has reserved a booth for Festifall (Sunday, October 4, 2015). It is OK for us to sell raffle tickets from our Festifall booth if we want to do so. Possible fundraising idea: Cedar Ridge High School woodturning students (Fall 2014 grantee) want to donate their handiwork to help raise funds for other arts projects for kids ("kids helping kids"). OCAC could raffle them to raise additional funds for our Arts in Education grants. We could sell raffle tickets at our Festifall booth, via silent auction at 30th Anniversary party (Thursday, September 3, 2015 in Room 230 at the Whitted Bldg. in Hillsborough), etc. 2016 Emerging Artist workshop in Orange County will be on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 from 6-7:30 pm in Meeting Room A at the Chapel Hill Public Library. Staff requests input from OCAC board RE: the pros and cons of sponsoring rotating art exhibits. Many OCAC board members have a great deal of experience running galleries and coordinating art exhibits. The County Manager did not include our \$25,000 proposed public art request in her recommended FY16 budget. At the May 12, 2015 meeting with the County Manager, Jeff Thompson (Director, Asset Management), Lauri Paolicelli (Director, Visitors Bureau), Steve Brantley (Director, Economic Development) and OCAC staff on "County Purchased Art Policy," there was no discussion on how to pay for future public art projects or how to pay for arts exhibits in various county buildings. The County Manager began by saying that we knew where she stood RE: purchasing art. Instead, the discussion was about creating art exhibit areas in various county buildings, beginning with the Whitted Building. This is what the BOCC wants. Jeff Thompson will get this committee together soon to work on how best to do this, and will report back to the County Manager within 6 months. Staff emailed a link of art exhibit spaces in Orange County to the County Manager, Jeff Thompson, Laurie Paolicelli and Steve Brantley so they could see the current opportunities artists have for exhibiting their artwork. Staff also suggested we take some "field trips" to see the differences between curated and non-curated art exhibits. If appointed again, Tony Kane will replace Devra Thomas on the OCAC advisory board. Staff will be attending the Americans for the Arts (AFTA) annual conference in Chicago from June 11-14, 2015.

Action Item: None

Topic C

Discussion Point: CHOCVB Liaison, Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Decision/Vote(s): Debb Hepp reported briefly on the Visitors Bureau's May 2015 meeting. At their meeting, Colleen Minton of Terra Vita made a presentation and requested (and received) additional funding. There were also Visitors Bureau budget and fund balance updates. OCAC's Marketing Committee will meet again at 9 am on June 25, 2015 at Joe Van Gogh in Chapel Hill.

Action Item: None

Topic D

Discussion Point: Board Retreat

Decision/Vote(s): OCAC board members were reminded about our Mini-Retreat on Saturday, June 20, 2015 (9 am – noon) with special guest **Karen Wells (Executive Director, ARTS North Carolina)**. Mini-Retreat agenda items will be primarily advocacy, funding requests, etc. Other suggestions are welcomed.

Action Item: None

Topic E

Discussion Point: Advocacy Updates

Decision/Vote(s): No discussion.

Action Item: None

Topic F

Discussion Point: Agenda Additions/Old Business/New Business

Decision/Vote(s): Chair Devra Thomas mentioned an email received from **Anita Jones-McNair (Director, Town of Carrboro Recreation & Parks Dept.)** regarding Carrboro cultural districts and the "next steps for Creative Carrboro." Staff will forward Anita Jones-McNair's email to all OCAC board members for their review. OCAC board members were reminded that Vice Chair Ashley Nissler will lead our August, 2015 board meeting. Nominating Committee will be charged in August, 2015 with bringing back a new slate of officers at our September 14, 2015 meeting.

Action Item: None

Topic G

Discussion Point: Calendar

Decision/Vote(s): OCAC Advisory Board does not meet in July. Our next meeting will be Monday, August 10, 2015 from 6:30-7:30 pm in Room 2-3 at the Century Center (100 N. Greensboro Street) in Carrboro.

Action Item: None

Topic H

Discussion Point: Spring 2015 Arts Grant Allocation – CLOSED SESSION

Decision/Vote(s): OCAC Advisory Board reviewed the grant applications received by the deadline.

Action Item: OCAC Advisory Board allocated \$30,878 in state Grassroots funds to nonprofit arts organizations, nonprofit organizations sponsoring art projects, and schools and \$300 in county funds to an individual artist. If additional state Grassroots funds are received in FY16, these funds will be used to increase the Spring 2015 grant to one arts organization and possibly help support OCAC programming.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM