

## Orange County Arts Commission

### February 2023 Minutes

**Attendees:** Fred Joiner, Josh Rosenstein, Anita Mills, Chair, Saba Jordan, Linda Williamson, Sec, John Bemis, Krista Bremer, Crystal Wu, Vice Chair, Katie Murray, Lindsay Metivier, Marlon Torres, Sean Bailey, Mark Bettger

Meeting via Zoom Link

1. Call to Order at 6:39pm by Anita Mills.
2. January 2023 Board Minutes were approved with one correction on attendees. Moved by Crystal and Seconded by Lindsay
3. Board updates from Katie Murray:
  - a. Application for Denise Duffy was reviewed. Mark moved to accept Denise's application and Sean seconded. Katie will present the application at the next Board of Commissioners meeting.
  - b. Application from Jenny Schultz-Thomas (ED ArtsCenter) is still in process. We are waiting for the amended policy to allow exceptions to the requirement to live in Orange County, which will go before the next Commissioner's meeting. Hopefully that policy change will be approved in February so Jenny's application can be processed in time to take over when Mark's term ends.
  - c. Josh's term on the Chapel Hill Cultural Arts Committee might be up, but that issue is still being reviewed by CHCAC. We may need a new liaison from them.
  - d. Vacancy suggestions were discussed. Katie shared the breakdown of board members in terms of area of expertise and geography. We have two additional positions to fill. Could use more representation from Chapel Hill. Board discussed possible candidates and recommended two people for Katie to approach.
  - e. New member orientation for our advisory board is still in the works and will be done soon.
4. Director's Report - Katie Murray
  - a. Katie is asking for additional staff with the new County budget proposals. Currently we have Jen who does Grants and Operations, but that position is not funded by the County at this time. We also have Maris, who is in a part-time marketing position. For the new budget, Katie is requesting:
    - i. a full-time programming person
    - ii. Changing the marketing position to full-time
    - iii. Adding an Arts and Education coordinator position to work with Eno Mill educational events and serve as the County arts/education coordinator, which has been a role provided by The Arts Center.
  - b. Grants
    - i. American Rescue Plan Award for \$35,000 – Katie is using some of this money to offer a DEIA Program with Aisha Adams for arts organizations in the county. It will be a 4-part targeted program. This solution will allow us to use the ARPA money the way it is supposed to be used and will allow our arts organization to have access to this type of quality programming, which has not been previously supported by their own budgets. The ARPA money must

be spent before June. Board discussed other options for outreaching to BIPOC organizations and other organizations. One suggestion is to use the money to help bring training to BIPOC artists on how to organize as an arts/nonprofit organization. Another suggestion is to look at organizations that are having festivals in the spring and help support their activity.

- ii. Arts Educators – still in the works. Grant process has not gone out yet.
- c. Big Night In for the Arts
- i. It has been very difficult this year to obtain sponsors. Katie has only obtained one sponsor. Individual contributions have always been good in Orange County so please push out the information to everyone we can that might donate on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. An exciting in person Watch Party has been planned at Mayton hotel in Cary, NC . Tickets can be purchased and discounted hotel rooms are available.
- d. Eno Mill Update
- i. 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Concert is this week and WRAL is coming to film for Big Night In. Please come to the concert! Tickets are \$20.
  - ii. Two studios are available at the Mill. Please spread the word.
  - iii. We need more volunteer support!!!
  - iv. Our camp lineup was published. All camps are an arts immersion format and are full day.
  - v. Tom Stevens has joined the OC Arts Alliance as a new board member.
  - vi. Uproar's next big deadline is Artist Call, which closes 3/1
- e. Liaison Reports
- a) UNC Student Liaison Update – no updates
  - b) Chapel Hill Arts Commission – no meeting since last OCAC meeting. Next meeting is this Wednesday. Current activities include outdoor basketball mural, last stages of peace and justice banner, and the new Poet Laurette has been showing up at places and doing a great job. At the next meeting, board is going clarify its name and direction. Uproar will be on agenda as well.
  - c) UNC – celebrating wellness days at UNC today and tomorrow, Arts Everywhere is still having issues due to staffing departures. Ackland has several exhibits up. Carolina Performing Arts has *Omar* a new Opera. PlayMakers is finishing up with *Hamlett*. Next up, at PlayMakers is a play about life of James Baldwin.
  - d) Hillsborough Arts Council -- fundraiser March 18th for spring equinox should be a good event if anyone can come. John has been participating in Board Boot Camp trainings via Zoom meetings by company ESC.
  - e) The ArtsCenter – new building walls are going up! Hard opening in May. Summer camps just opened two weeks ago and are filling up. The ArtsCenter is completing a big DEI initiative and providing money for organizations to come in for the programming.
  - f) Carrboro Arts- no update
  - g) Visitor's Bureau – Katie presented at their last meeting on Uproar. The meeting

went really well.

h) Orange County Artists Guild -- Results of the member survey for last year's tour is not finalized yet. The Guild's board is going to hold a retreat in March to help figure out how the Board can better support the growing Guild membership. Also, a survey about member satisfaction has gone out and results will be shared at the retreat.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm