

# Orange County Arts Commission

June 10, 2024, Minutes

**Attendees:** Linda Williamson, Sec, Crystal Wu, Chair, Marc Miller, Katie Murray, Wendy Smith, Denise Duffy, Vice chair, Heather Washburn, Saba Jordan , Josh Rosenstein, Alexa Velez

**Absent:** John Claude Bemis, Gideon Young, Lindsay Metivier, Krista Bremmer, Sadie Allen

**Meeting Location:** Eno Arts Mill

1. Call to Order at 6:35pm by Crystal.
2. The board wished Katie a very happy birthday and presented her with flowers, wine, and a balloon.
3. Marc moved to approve the May 2024 Board Minutes and Crystal seconded. All approved.
4. Board Updates:
  - a) Celia Gibbs – going to BOCC on June 18<sup>th</sup>. She is our UNC student liaison.
  - b) Application – Renee Hayes completed her county volunteer application. The board discussed her application and how impressed everyone was with her background and answers on the application. Linda made the motion and Denise seconded to recommend that Renee Hayes be presented to the BOCC for our open position. All approved.
  - c) Marc – announced that he and his wife are moving out of Hillsborough later in the summer. Marc will participate in grant meetings in July and board meetings for as long as he is here.
5. Director’s Report
  - a. FY25 Budget Update - Katie has been notified that a Town of Hillsborough grant for \$10,000 will be awarded to support First Friday events at the Arts Mill. Additionally, Katie met with her boss and obtained confirmation that her current programming budgetary needs would be met even though money was moved out of the arts budget.
  - b. Eno Mill
    - i. Current show – beautiful show from the NC Pastel Society that illustrates the many different styles and applications of pastels. This group is an all-volunteer organization and have been great to work with. Before the opening of the show, a portion of our hanging system fell off the wall and damaged the frames of eight pieces of art. Studio 71 worked with Katie to replace/fix the frames -- turning the work around very quickly.
    - ii. Gallery hanging system – Workers reinstalled the hanging system and got everything back up. Katie is looking for some expert opinion on how the system is doing/setup. Heather volunteered to review the system and give her opinion on the setup.
    - iii. August First Friday Big Fish themed show– Katie asked for our opinion about the August call, which did not have a large response to date. Discussion about how the request to send existing work vs new work was a little challenging with this one since existing work might not fit with the themes of Big Fish. The board

discussed extending the time or moving the event to next year. Ended with the idea to move it out of August.

- iv. Juneteenth Celebration reminder - This Friday 6-9pm at the Arts Mill. There will be art vendors, music, food trucks, and DIY crafts. Katie would like all the board members to come if around.
- v. Summer Camps – going ok. We have some of the largest camps ever. Staff is feeling very stressed. We probably need to make future camps with smaller caps.
- c. Early FY25 projects
  - i. There will be a feasibility study with the Town of Hillsborough on a cultural space anchored around a performance space.
  - ii. OCAC/OCAA Rebrand – starting this. Heather, Denise, and Wendy have gone through it with their organizations and can assist Katie.
  - iii. AEP survey results presentation – Katie was asked to be a speaker at the national Artist Thrive annual conference regarding her work with AEP economic survey results. In August, she will be presenting, “Show me the numbers: Articulating the economic impact of the arts to your community”
- d. Arts Educator Grant Applications – received 4 applications, but only 1 matched the granting instructions. Katie reached out to each of the ones that had issues with the requirements, and she did not get the responses needed.
  - 1. Board unanimously approved awarding a \$1000 grant to Rody Huertas Ostolaza
- e. Artist Projects and Grassroot Grant Panels – these are the proposed dates. The board discussed having the meetings virtually again this year and all approved.

Mon 7/15 5:30pm	Literary Arts	John Gideon Celia Krista
Tues 7/16 5:30pm	Performing Arts	Linda, Denise, Josh, Alexa, Marc, Crystal
Wed 7/17 5:30pm	Visual Arts	Heather, Lindsay, Saba
Friday 7/12 4pm	Financial Review	Linda, Denise, Wendy

6. Liaison Reports

No updates at this meeting

7. Crystal closed the meeting at 7:27pm