

Minutes

- 1) Call to Order at 6:43PM We did not have a quorum so no official votes. Crystal Wu
Board members present: Katie Murray, Linda Williamson, Crystal Wu, Wendy Smith, Francesca Talenti, Alex Gast
Board members absent: Gideon Young, Krista Bremer, Renee Hayes, Lindsay Metivier, Denise Duffy, John Bemis, Heather Washburn, Josh Rosenstein
- alexdgast@gmail.com
- 2) Board updates Katie Murray
- Welcome Alexander Gast, UNC Student Liaison.
 - Ashley Nissler & Josh's 2nd term are pending appointment by BOCC, which should be approved Sept 16
 - Vacant positions – discussed current board make-up and three new applications to the board.
 - A new board secretary is needed starting next month since Linda is rotating off the board. Wendy volunteered to take notes for the October meeting.
- 3) Director's Updates: Katie Murray
- a) Uproar went great! Katie is still pulling together statistics. She reported we saw increases in all numbers – votes, attendees, visits, trolley rides, etc. Uproar received great news coverage because of the Mill flooding. Only thing down was fund raising, which wasn't bad considering the environment. All three towns and the County increased their donations during the event. Katie will be scheduling an official debrief.
- b) Mill Update – Katie is meeting with owner of the Mill on Sept. 16th. Current estimate for re-opening is 1st quarter 2026.
- c) Fundraising efforts
- General Donations for artist impact due to Chantal has been considerable. To date, we've raised \$119,709. Of this amount, \$102,959 is designated for our Relief Grant Program, which will begin soon.
 - "Common Good" Benefit Auction is under way and \$7,550 so far have been raised from the auction and proceeds from Weird Productions Smash & Slam. Funds will also be raised from Salt & Smoke & Sound Festival on October 18th and others. Katie asked for help with sharing posts about the "Common Good" auction.
 - Paint it Orange – It is the 9th year of Paint it Orange. Requests for sponsorships and volunteers underway now. We are using the program Volunteer Local system for volunteer shifts and sign up.
 - <https://orangecountyartsalliance.volunteerlocal.com/volunteer/>
- 4) Liaison Reports
- a) UNC Student Liaison Update Alexander Gast
Alex briefed group on writing events on campus and updates on faculty.
- b) Chapel Hill Arts Commission, no one to report.
- c) UNC Crystal Wu
PlayMakers opened its season, Carolina Performing Arts Season started. They also have a job opening for Engagement director. Music Department has lots of activities going on.
- d) Hillsborough Arts Council- no update
- e) The ArtsCenter Wendy Smith
Lots going on as usual with a variety of classes Performances are selling out. Once Upon a Time in Carrboro show going on now with one more performance. Fund Raising Campaign is going on now. Arts Center has a lot of obligations related to new building. The ArtsCenter has a matching grant opportunity that Wendy is asking all of us to participate with.

f) Carrboro Arts - no update

g) Visitor's Bureau

Wendy Smith

Spokesperson from restaurant and hotel industry spoke at the last meeting highlighting the connection to tourism. Hyper focused on local resources and being a Tar Heel.

h) Orange County Artists Guild - no update

i) Carolina African American Writers' Collective/Carrboro Poets Council - no update

5) Crystal adjourned the meeting at 7:38pm

IMPORTANT DATES

- Wed Sept 17 Weave & Spin featuring GIDEON! Eno House, 7pm
- October 1-3 9th Annual Paint it Orange Plein Air Paint-Out Orange County
 - Wet Paint Sale - Tom Stevens Gallery (Adults) / OC Library (Youth) – throughout the month
 - Thurs Oct 2 PIO Harvest Moon Party (board/sponsors/artists) Eno River Brewing, 6-9pm
 - Fri Oct 3 Sponsor Preview - Tom Stevens Gallery (Adults) / OC Library (Youth) - 5-6pm
 - Awards & Music – Yonder - 6-9pm, 10/3
- Sat Oct 18 Salt & Smoke & Sound Festival (votes needed) Blackwood Farm
- Fri Nov 7 “Thank you” party with Shoaldiggers Eno River Brewing, 6-9pm
- Saturday November 15th Hillsborough Holiday Bazar at River Park