

Orange County Arts Commission

March 9, 2009

Minutes

Present: Alice Levinson, Shannon Jackson, Mary Harley Kruter, Robert Kintz, Tammy Lambert, Leah Rade, Gordon Jameson, Lauri Alexander, Rachel Lillis, Charles Hochman, Geoffrey Hathaway

Absent: Tyler Dockery, Wendy Gellert, Bronwyn Merritt, Mary Jane Felgenhauer

Staff Present: Martha Shannon

Alice Levinson called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes: There are 2 corrections – 1.) Gordon Jameson is on Ad Hoc Committee for Cultural Master Plan, and 2.) Orange County population estimate by state for Grassroots Arts Program purposes: 136,626. Robert Kintz made a motion to accept minutes with these 2 corrections; Leah Rade seconded.

Updates to Directors Report: 2 volunteers needed for Congressional High School Arts Competition at 1pm on April 23 at Durham Arts Council for 2-3 hours time. The District-wide reception will take place on Monday, May 11th at 6 pm at the Durham Arts Council (120 Morris Street) in Durham. Gordon Jameson and Alice Levinson volunteered to serve as judges. Friday, April 17th is the deadline to receive art work in Orange County for this competition.

The Artists' Salon on February 27th attracted approximately 70 people. The topic was "Making Money Online Through Art."

We are continuing our talks with Chatham Arts on Spring, 2010 workshop on how artists can make more money through craft in designer homes ("Craft in the Building Industry"). Topics would include "working with a client" and "read blueprints". We will be working with Central Piedmont and Durham Tech community colleges on this workshop. The workshop is modeled after a Handmade in America project. Dates under consideration are April 11th or 18th 2010. Briar Chapel Development in Chatham County has volunteered to host this workshop.

Current year state grassroots will be reduced by approx. \$800 (from \$40,182 to \$39,336). T.I.M.E. project – with Orange County Parks & Recreation - will receive less, since this is our last project for FY09 funded with state Grassroots money.

Approval of CIP is back on the agenda for March 17th BOCC meeting. CIP has no money for public art for FY10 and FY11. The OCAC agreed to communicate (individually and as a group) to the BOCC in the next few days to ask that the money for public art be put back in the CIP budget for FY10 and FY11.

Orange County Parks and Recreation Department would like for us to leave "Sit" and "Stay" at Cedar Grove Park through their grand opening April 18th. "Sit" and "Stay" will be moved to their permanent home at the new Animal Services Center in Chapel Hill in late-April, 2009.

OCAC was asked to cut 10% from our projected FY10 operational budget. We reduced state grants and took out entire Printing line item. We can probably do the postcards internally or take some money out of our Grassroots allocation to pay for printing in FY10. We may also have the ability to shift around some county money.

It was reported that County Manager Laura Blackmon will resign as of June 30, 2009.

Percent for Art: We started this process in Orange County back in 2004. Chapel Hill Public Art Ordinance was passed in 2002. BOCC didn't say yes, but didn't say no. BOCC wants us to come to work session to work out Resolution and Ordinance for Percent for Art. Work Session is not scheduled yet. Our BOCC Liaison, Vice Chair Mike Nelson, advises that we wait until we get past the current budget crisis. August or September, 2009 may be a good time to come to a work session. BOCC will have questions about how to handle the schools. We may need to emulate what they do for the schools in Mecklenburg County.

Cultural Master Plan Ad Hoc Committee: It was suggested that we add people from outside of the committee to help develop a vision and define opportunities for a 5-10 year master plan. Map all existing public art projects/programs. This touches back to Culture Zone.

T.I.M.E. Committee: The two parks chosen are Northern Park in Cedar Grove and Central Park in Hillsborough. This project is modeled after a program of New Mexico Arts that "grows" new public artists with small budget temporary installations. We are funding this through FY09 state Grassroots money. Committee members include representatives from OCAC and Parks and Recreation, as well as some community folks. Their next meeting on April 25th will try to determine themes and timelines for the 2 parks. Hopefully, this project will help grow more public artists in Orange County. Prospectus is for Orange County residents only. We hope to expand this pilot project next year with other Orange County park sites.

Business Resources for Artists: Ad hoc committee continues its work.

Alice Levinson and Martha Shannon will meet with Chapel Hill-Orange County Visitors Bureau board at 8 am on March 18th. They will be talking about a downtown Chapel Hill gallery that promotes local artists – much like the Hands Craft Gallery in Boone, NC. If anyone has any thing to add – just mail Alice or Martha. We are excited about growing the economic base of Orange County via the arts.

OCAC reappointments scheduled for the April 7th, 2009 BOCC agenda. Mary Jane Nirdlinger, Tyler Dockery and Tammy Lambert will not seek reappointment. Tammy Lambert is moving to Wake County. Martha Shannon will send out emails to the volunteer list to see who responds with an interest in serving.

Lauri Alexander moved to adjourn the meeting; Rachel Lillis seconded.