

Orange County Arts Commission

Board Meeting

May 11, 2009

Attendees: Lauri Alexander, Wendy Gellert, Charles Hochman, Gordon Jameson, Robert Kintz, Emily Lees, Alice Levinson, Rachel Lillis, Audra Marotta, Bronwyn Merritt

Absent: Geoffrey Hathaway, Shannon Jackson, Mary Harley Kruter, Leah Rade

Staff Present: Martha Shannon

Chair Alice Levinson called the meeting to order and welcomed new Board Members, Emily Lees and Audra Marotta. Board Member self-introductions proceeded around the table.

Art Moment: Charles Hochman presented this month's Art Moment. He discussed the Opera Company of North Carolina's upcoming events and distributed a flier with details. *Casual Classics: Opera and Broadway in the Museum Park* at NCMA will take place on May 30. On May 28, Principal Conductor Timothy Myers will host *A Taste of Opera* featuring cast members discussing "How Do You Get To Carnegie Hall?"

Lauri Alexander moved approval of the April, 2009 Minutes; Gordon Jameson seconded.

Director's Report Updates from Martha Shannon: Board Member Geoffrey Hathaway is absent tonight because he is representing the Board at the reception for the winners of the Congressional High School Art Competition.

The CIP was approved at the May 5 BOCC meeting. There is now \$5,000 in the Public Art reserve for FY 10 and FY 11. OCAC advocacy was very effective!

"Sit" and "Stay", our art work for the new Animal Services Center, were moved to their permanent home on May 7. Mike Roig's sculptures are pictured sitting and staying on the facility's web page at <http://www.co.orange.nc.us/AnimalServices/NewFacility.asp>. There will be a grand opening of the center beginning May 15.

The Arts Day 2009 Arts Legislative Agenda was reviewed. It contained the State Arts Council's funding requests to the Legislature for Grassroots Arts and Basic Grants, a proposal for requiring one unit in the arts for high school graduation and information about NC Arts License Plate legislation.

Our next Artists' Salon will be Friday, May 15. The topic will be "**Piedmont Poets' Roundtable**". Moderator: Piedmont Laureate Jaki Shelton Green. Panelists: Joy Acey, Grey Brown, Timothy Crowley and Phillip Shabazz. Also, Nadia Nasir – 1st Place, 2009 Poetry Out Loud NC.

The State of NC is planning (fall FY10) a statewide Economic Impact Study with Americans for the Arts. We will be joining in with that project.

The County Manager will be presenting her budget to the BOCC. A hotlink to the budget items should be available online on Wednesday. Board Members were urged to check out the

Manager's proposal for her recommendation for Arts Commission funding. We may wish to consider another round of advocacy on behalf of the work of the Arts Commission.

Artists Co-op Meeting Update: Upcoming meetings about the development of an artists co-op in Chapel Hill. Thursday, May 14 will be preliminary meeting to help gather thoughts together about the nature and direction of the project. Community arts movers and shakers have been invited to share their ideas. Meeting is at the University Mall Special Events Center at 6:00pm. This discussion will be followed with a larger, public meeting on May 20 from 1-2:30 pm at 109 E. Franklin Street (the old Kerr Drug space). This meeting will feature artists from Hands Gallery Co-op in Boone, N.C. discussing the model they use and what has and has not worked for them over the last 30 years.

Board members were asked to contact community arts people who might want to assist and invite them to the meetings.

We are not creating an artists co-op. We are helping to facilitate the creation of an artists-run co-op!

New Projects Update: Lauri Alexander and Rachel Lillis discussed the business resource for Orange County Artists that they are developing for the Board. They are currently soliciting articles and information from previous Artists' Salon leaders for the project. A rough draft of the solicitation letter was distributed for comment.

Additional Items: We still have an opening for a third new member of the Board. Our third candidate was not approved at last BOCC meeting. We may wish to re-nominate Tiffany Johnson. Alice Levinson will check with our liaison, Commissioner Mike Nelson, for his input. Charles Hochman knows of an interested person. Martha Shannon advised him to have the person complete the volunteer application.

An updated Board Contact List was distributed. Audra Marotta noted corrections to her phone numbers.

The T.I.M.E. Project had no applicants. One of the people serving on the committee had initially expressed interest in applying for the commission but chose committee service instead. Since no applications were received, Cindy Newport will take on the Cedar Grove project.

Calendar Items: Wendy Geller will be at Art on the Vine 2009 this weekend at The Winery at Iron Gate Farm in Mebane and at Last Friday in Hillsborough. She will email information to Board Members.

Emily Lees will be at Artsposure 2009 in Raleigh with the Triangle Potters Guild. Dates are May 16 and 17.

The next meeting will be on June 8 from 6:00pm to 9:00pm at the EDC Conference Room in Hillsborough. Grant packets for the next meeting will be available on June 1 at the OCAC office in Hillsborough and at the Arts Center box office in Carrboro. Please let Martha Shannon know where you wish to pick up your grant packet.

Adjournment: Gordon Jameson made a motion to adjourn and Wendy Gellert seconded.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert S. Kintz