

Orange County Arts Commission Board Meeting

November 10, 2008

Century Center, Carrboro

Attendees: Shannon Jackson, Rachel Lillis, Charles Hochman, Gordon Jameson, Mary Harley Kruter, Tammy Lambert, Leah Rade, Bronwyn Merritt, Lauri Alexander, Wendy Gellert, Robert Kintz

Absent: Alice Levinson, Geoffrey Hathaway, Mary Jane Nirdlinger

Staff Attending: Martha Shannon

Approval of Minutes: Gordon Jameson, Lauri Alexander seconded.

Director's Report Updates: 7 potential applicants attended the Fall grants information meeting.

New Animal Services Center will be ready for "Sit" and "Stay" dog sculptures at their new location on Eubanks road in April, 2009.

Nov. 6th BOCC action on changes to Human Services Advisory Commission grants was moved to the BOCC's November 18th agenda. Potential for several additional grants dealing with "arts and culture" to review in January/February.

2009 BOCC meeting agenda is not available yet because they have not approved their agenda –should happen November 18th.

Americans for the Arts economic impact study (with other arts councils in Raleigh and Durham), If you are a member, you can receive a 10% discount. Bill two invoices (one in the beginning and one in end); we should spread it over 2 fiscal years. 2 payments of \$3,375 total by OCAC. We already have \$2,500 allocated from county money. We can use \$875 in state Grassroots money as well. This will generate two reports (county and triangle-wide). We have not received any assistance at this point from either EDC or CHOCVB.

Central Orange Senior Center/Sportsplex project (Peg Gignoux's fabric pieces) – in conjunction with the NC Museum of Art: The original wall is not available for the fabric pieces. Martha met with Vicki Wilson (who works for the management company that runs the Sportsplex) and another wall in the Sportsplex has been located for installation – it is a large flat wall. Installation set for February.

Angela Kaiser is renting gallery space at the former Cardinal Bank location in downtown Hillsborough. It will be called "Churton Street Gallery".

Reminder – It is now a requirement for Fall cycle and beyond that everyone have a DUNs number so that art economic activity can be tracked.

Rachel Lillis distributed print outs of biographies of the three newly elected Commissioners.

Ad Hoc Committee Updates:

Mary Harley Kruter – tasked with finding location for reception for other advisory committees – Chapel Hill Tourism and Economic Development Advisory Board – can anyone think of locations.

OCAC can buy food. Gordon Jameson said that we could have at his house – if in the Spring. Other option is Mary Harley Kruter’s club house at her housing complex. The sooner the better – but may need to hold off until January or February. Weeknight Monday through Thursday – 5pm to 7pm. – the Guild, any program ideas, please email to Mary Harley Kruter and cc Rachel Lillis so that she can make a running total of the ideas.

- Temporary Installations Made for the Elements - Geoffrey has to wait to first week of December before he can meet with Lori Taft (Exec. Dir., Orange County Parks and Rec.).
- Creative Business Assessment Team – Rachel, Lauri, Brownyn, Mary Harley Kruter – working on getting list of artist’s salon to reach out and work on entrepreneurial resource.
- Orange County Public Art Master Plan - no updates

Budget: Martha Shannon distributed a **proposed** Summary of all 2009-2019 Capital projects. County Manager has recommended zero funding for public art in the CIP for the next two fiscal years. Public Art Reserve – originally John Link recommended 10k. Senior staff didn’t like the 10K so he reduced to 5K. We have not heard anything specific about FY10 operating budget, but there are concerns. How serious are the Commissioners going to take the Manager’s recommendations? This proposed cut could be a sign of things to come. It’s just a proposed budget – but we have an opportunity now that we have three new commissioner’s (Pam, Steve, Bernadette) – Exec. Committee met to decide how to approach, maybe a lunch – get these new commissioners introduced to the OCAC and what our role is in the economic development, etc. We may also go to a Commissioners meeting in January or February. Go before commissioners to update them on our activities and thank them for their support. Executive Committee will request BOCC Liaison. Gordon Jameson spoke with Bernadette Pelissier and she seems supportive of the arts. Important to mention what the money has been used for – real examples – some from the Seymour Center to speak about Public Art and how we have affected them positively. We could go to several BOCC meetings to spread it out.

Pam Hemminger’s background is in schools. Check in with art teachers – take an art teacher to lunch. Any other suggestions – send email

Next meeting (December 8th) is our combined regular meeting/Fall grants meeting in the EDC Conference Room in Hillsborough.

We need to decide by the end of the calendar year what we should do with the Grassroots money – could have \$3,500 of the additional grassroots money to do another purchase of existing county buildings – we have to spend by the end of June 2009

Brownyn Merritt offered her Carrboro studio at White Oak Apt. B6 for the December grants meeting.

Gordon Jameson reported on Culture Zone decal – establish locations “in the zone”. It is supposed to create buzz on what the “zone” is. Their board issues have been resolved. They are now interviewing website designers. Studio tour went well for Gordon – average visitors – better than average sales. Arts Advocates is partnering with the Guild – trying to establish non profit gallery. They are putting some money towards this gallery space and are trying to find a good location. He caution against going in the co-op direction. It all depends on the volunteers. It would better if there was a paid director and volunteers. Hopefully there will be some donated space from UNC.

Adjourn Meeting: Leah motions, Tammy seconds.