

# The Official Minutes of the Orange County Arts Commission February 12, 2007

Present were:

Alice Levinson, Chair  
Bonnie B. Fuchs, Secretary  
Lauri Alexander  
Tyler Dockery  
Robert Kintz

Mary Harley Kruter  
Gordon Jameson  
Rachel Lillis  
Bronwyn Merritt

Not present:

Dan Barker  
Geoffrey Hathaway  
Tammy Lambert  
Amy Lawson

*Through all the world there goes one long cry from the heart of the artist: Give me leave to do my utmost.  
-- Isak Dineson, 'Babette's Feast'*

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1. **Chair Alice Levinson** called the meeting to order.
2. **Bonnie Fuchs** presented the Art Moment. Fuchs' work as color stylist and consultant to the paint and color card industry was demonstrated with chip- and stripe-cards, speaking about the development of paint color systems. Red paint chips were deemed appropriate for February's color.
3. Minutes of the January '07 meeting were submitted for approval. **Gordon Jameson** moved the minutes be approved; **Robert Kintz** seconded the motion. Motion carried without dissent.
4. **Martha Shannon** submitted additional items to the Director's Report.
  - a. The Orange County Economic Development annual breakfast will be **Tuesday March 13** at the Carolina Club. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m., and brings together all county departments and the public.
  - b. **Shannon** announced that **Joseph Hackney**, state legislator from this county has been elected Speaker of the House. Hackney is a long time supporter of the arts.
  - c. Issue for the board to consider is whether to invite a commissioner from the BOCC to **join the Orange County Arts Commission** as a voting member.
    - i. At this time commissioners do sit on other county agencies, but the initial charter for the arts commission did not include this item.
    - ii. Creating a resolution to include a commissioner will be the first step, followed by asking the BOCC members who among them would like to serve on the arts commission.

- iii. **Mary Harley Kruter** pointed out that with a new county manager in place, a commissioner-member of the board would bring the arts to a greater exposure before the BOCC.
  - d. **Noah Ranells**, Agriculture Economic Development Coordinator for Orange County, has proposed a Quilt Barn Project. Ranells will speak to the March board meeting and present the project particulars. His presentation will supercede the usual Art Moment.
  - e. **E-Marketing for the Arts** is the workshop proposed by Chatham Arts. Eugene Carr of Patron technology, NYC plans to present a half-day workshop on Sunday, April 29, 1:30 - 5 p.m., in the Barn at Fearington. The fee is \$20 per person in advance, \$25 at the door. Orange County has \$433 available for contract services before June, 2007. The workshop is open to both artists and arts organizations.
  - f. **Shannon** distributed the recently published "*Conflict of Interest*" policy from the state arts council. Board members discussed the policy and then moved to accept as stated. **Lauri Alexander** made the motion, **Tyler Dockery** seconded the motion.
  - g. **Shannon** gave a heads up to a possible public art project developing in Orange County property. The **Senior Center** being constructed on Homestead Road is considering a fountain or water installation for their courtyard. Details about when, how and cost parameters are yet to be determined [see attached message from Janice Tyler, Senior Centers Administrator].
  - h. The **Artist's Salon for Friday, February 16** will address "Customer Satisfaction." Carol Hewitt of W.M Hewitt Pottery and Rob Fox, General Manager of PlayMakers Repertory Company are the guest panelists.
5. **Chair Levinson** called for *ad hoc* committee reports.
- a. Testing of the Orange County Arts Commission's new website design is underway by Website committee members. The test website is:  
[www.artsorange.org/new\\_site/index.html](http://www.artsorange.org/new_site/index.html)
  - b. No other ad hoc committees made reports.
6. President **Alice Levinson** turned the discussion to new business and confirmation of new arts commission members for the coming year.
- a. Two recent commission resignations forced reconsideration of volunteer candidates. Director Shannon prepared copies of the candidates and added that **Leah Rade**, former Arts Commission President, has been off the board for the requisite year and wishes to volunteer for another term.
  - b. Two serving board members are leaving as their terms expire, leaving a total of four positions to be filled. Without resolving the BOCC-member joining the arts commission, either three or possibly four candidates are needed.

- c. Seven candidates were discussed for experience, arts involvement and geographical district in the interest of diversity for the commission. Shannon was asked to contact all of the candidates and inquire as to their availability.
  - d. **Shannon** will submit the names of the arts commissioners currently on the board to the BOCC for reappointment unless otherwise notified otherwise by the members. The BOCC will consider and reappoint at an upcoming BOCC meeting.
  - e. A Vice-Chair vacancy was addressed by the commission. **Lauri Alexander** nominated **Rachel Lillis** to fill the remainder of the term vacated by **Sarah Dougherty**. **Gordon Jameson** seconded the nomination, all were in favor. f. Shannon then asked for volunteers to assume secretary's duties as Bonnie Fuchs, current Commission Secretary, leaves as of March 31. **Bronwyn Merritt** said she was willing to assume this position beginning in April.
7. **Secretary Fuchs** asked for discussion about the stated Goals as determined at the 2002 Board Retreat. In lieu of the retreat postponement for 2007, Fuchs moved that Item D: Sponsor signature celebration of the arts be deleted.
- a. Following discussion about how long the goal as been addressed and how little has been done to achieve that aim, **Gordon Jameson** seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - b. The remaining goals can be discussed, amended, promoted or deleted as member continue to evaluate the goals and how best to serve the art needs of Orange County.
8. **Gordon Jameson** updated the commission on the status of the "Dog" project, two sculptures for the new animal shelter. **Bob Marotto**, Animal Services Director, is enthusiastic about the project as the arts will also encourage the public to question "Who are the Animal Services? And What do they do?" This attention will give opportunity to recognize what the agency does for the county.
9. Reporting on the ArtsCenter "Culture Shock" program presented by Jon Wilner, Director; Gordon Jameson reviewed the high points of the meeting. Mary Harley Kruter mentioned that the goals of the ArtsCenter and the goals of Orange County Arts Commission are much the same - to bring higher visibility to the arts.
- a. The area served in Wilner's program applies to Hillsborough, Chapel Hill/ Carrboro in Orange and parts of Chatham County but not Durham.
  - b. Shannon felt this exclusion was political in nature and that eventually the arts organizations would find the need for contiguous arts inclusion.
  - c. **Gordon Jameson** [retiring from the arts commission], has volunteered to serve on the steering committee for the "Culture Shock" program.

10. Martha Shannon brought forth that May 30 is the deadline for Arts Incubation application. The Orange County Arts Commission is in need of an 'incubation' project as the Arts Advocates are at their third and final year.
11. **Mary Harley Kruter** moved for the session to adjourn; **Tyler Dockery** seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.
12. No art moment will be needed for March. Suggestions for the April "**ART Moment**" may be sent to Martha Shannon.
13. ORANGE COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION will meet again on **March 12, 2007** 6:00-7:30 p.m., at the Southern Human Services Center, Room D, Chapel Hill.

Submitted 13 March 2007 for review & approval,

Bonnie B. Fuchs, Secretary

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2/26/07

Hi Martha,

Just wanted to let you know that I finally got a chance to speak with Jerry about having a Public Art project at the new Seymour Center. As I mentioned we are very interested in having some type of fountain in our courtyard and thought that this might make for a good project. As you can see I have also cc'd this note to Pam Jones, so she will be aware that we are talking about the possibility and to let us know if this is OK for the facility. If this is OK, then what do you need from us besides a letter of support. We would also want to be involved in preparing the submission guidelines, as well as the selection process.

Thanks for your support and we are looking forward to this exciting project.

Thanks,

Janice Tyler

Senior Centers Administrator

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