

Friends of the Visual Arts
dba Willamette Art Center
Wednesday, July 10, 2024 – 5:30 pm
Willamette Art Center Gallery
Board Meeting
Minutes

Attendance:

Board members: Carla Axtman, Pam Baldwin, Wendy Cornelisen, Sage Dunham, Dana Field, Claudia Hill, Josie Hummert.
Absent: Dave McConnell.
Staff: Lisa Joyce.

Call To Order: Board President Sage Dunham at 5:30 pm.

Secretary's Report: Claudia Hill

June 2024 minutes were provided for review. Sage **moved to approve the minutes as written.**
Motion seconded and passed after discussion and clarification.

Treasurer's Report: Dave McConnell submitted the report electronically:

Umpqua Bank Savings	\$53,917.40		
Umpqua Bank Checking	\$87802.17		
Petty Cash	\$397.00	TOTAL	\$142,116.64

An arithmetic error was noted and will be corrected at next meeting.

President's Report:

- Sage noted the board will need to actively recruit for the open board positions now and for the fall election. Josie has agreed to be the membership chair. A fundraising chair is needed. Candidates do not necessarily need pottery skills and could be from outside the WAC community.

*The Board agreed to deviate from the agenda and postpone the director's report until later in the meeting.

New Business:

- **Mission Statement.** Carla provided background and rationale behind the proposed change, summarized the feedback received from the WAC community, and conveyed the Strategic Planning Committee's recommendation to adopt the new statement. **Dana moved to revise the mission statement to read, "Willamette Art Center's mission is to maintain a sustainable and welcoming community for lifelong learning and exploration of the arts."** It was determined the new mission statement conforms to existing bylaws and objectives, and does not run counter to foundational document language. **Motion seconded and passed.**
- **Budget Review.** In lieu of attending in person, Dave provided a written report. (See attached) Revenues are slightly lower than expected, and expenses are slightly higher, but following similar trends as last year. Fundraising events - AV and EB - are expected to provide revenue adequate to cover expenses. Loss of access to the studio during heat closures and scheduled events was discussed. Sage noted that clay-a-thons in the past have been held during scheduled events.

Director's Report: Lisa Joyce

- Heat closures. Near term and long term ways to bring down excessively high temperatures in the studio were considered.
- Marion County Fair. Plans were discussed with fair management, but unable to finalize in a timely manner. There was no activity held this year.
- Tables and Canvas. Canvas on one table has been replaced with hardboard. Reactions from users are mixed. Lisa will monitor and develop guidelines.

Old Business:

- Artists at Artisan Village. Lisa conducted a survey to gauge the interest of potters to staff a booth selling personal pottery items. Interest was too low to proceed.

Ongoing Education: Lisa pointed to the messy part of working in a non-profit in juxtaposed with passion for the art center goals and objectives. Board members brought up examples such as limited time, loss of board members, group collaboration, managing expectations, the changing role of the board over time, and others.

Committee Reports:

- Marketing/Communication. Lisa noted classes are full. Stained Glass filled quickly. She is contributing to the Newsletter and Sue is updating the website. Lisa reviewed fundraising committee responsibilities and goals regarding sponsors outlined in the Strategic Plan. She is looking into a grant to automate sponsorship records.
- Empty Bowls. Glazing dates are scheduled for July 15, 16, and 18. Pam noted we are emailing a large group of participants, and K.D. expressed interest in providing a mini-workshop for hand-builders.
- Safety/Facilities. Dana appreciated the notes about the pros and cons of the hardboard table surface.
- Membership. Josie has reviewed the WAC board material and is looking at available models and systems for keeping track of membership.
- Artisan Village. Lisa reported sign-ups of vendors and musicians are complete. Volunteer signup, background checks and locating a paid coordinator are in process.
- Strategic Planning. The committee will meet next on July 22nd.

No report: Budget, Fundraising, Personnel, Auditing, Bylaws.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Submitted by Claudia Hill
WAC Board Secretary, 2024

Approved

_____ Date _____

Sage Dunham, President

Parking Lot

Capital improvement plan
Calendar

Next Board Meeting August 14th @ 5:30 pm