

Ontario Museum of History & Art Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
June 27, 2023

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CALL TO ORDER

President Chris Kueng called the Museum Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:58 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by President Kueng

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	President	Chris Kueng
	Board Members:	Rick Caughman
		Shannon Gertheimer
		Christian Garcia
	Council Liaison	Debra Dorst-Porada
	Museum, Arts & Culture Director	Marissa Kuchek
	Museum, Arts & Culture Manager	Kim Boganey
	Administrative Technician	Kari Kessinger
ABSENT:	Board member	Jerry Weems
	Executive Director	Helen McAlary
	Museum Associate Liaison	Leslie Sherwood-James

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 23, 2023, were approved by a 4-0 vote with a motion from Board Member Rick Caughman and second by Board Member Shannon Gertheimer.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON DEBRA DORST-PORADA

City Council Liaison Debra Dorst-Porada highlighted multiple areas of the Museum's strategic plan that have been completed such as Built on Water and the landscaping. She stated that the strategic plan has help show where the museum is headed and now that areas are checked off it is time to focus on increasing awareness and vistorship to the museum.

Director Marissa Kuchek agreed with Liaison Dorst-Porada and informed the board that the museum is working with an evaluation firm for the first time to survey the new exhibit *Built on Water*. This will allow the museum to learn and grow for future exhibits and increase engagement.

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Board Member Rick Caughman stated his biggest concern is that people still do not know the museum is here.

Director Kuchek informed that the museum has partnered with a PR and marketing firm, MIG, to increase awareness through paid advertisements and social media.

Director Kuchek, Board President Chris Kueng, Board Member Shannon Gertheimer, Board Member Christian Garcia and Liaison Debra Dorst-Porada also discussed the following:

- President Kueng brought up the museum's vision statement and focusing in on the key areas to increase engagement
- Board member Gertheimer stated that listening to the conversation she can see all the work being put in, but suggests a different way of updating the board quarterly so they can follow the process
- They discussed the time frame of accreditation and getting the reports back
- Hiring a consultant in 2024 to work on a new strategic plan in chunks
- The board discussed how the new Instagram account will help highlight the museum and bring a lot of organic reach

STAFF REPORTS

Director's Report

Culture Fest:

Director Kuchek reported that Culture Fest had about 700-1,000 people this year which is a big increase from 400-500 last year. The Education Department helped populate the plaza with artist vendors and information booths. And Ascending Edge Evaluation collected visitor surveys from the event and their final report will be available in September.

Education:

Public Programs: Education staff hosted two Emerging Artist Meet-Ups. On June 1st the program introduced emerging artist to the exhibition submission process. And on June 3rd Kathryn Ducan from Golden Artist Inc. Discussed different art mediums.

On June 10th, the museum hosted a Historic Talk with Joe Caskey on the Royal Tahitian. During the audience discussion community members discussed a variety of topics highlighting the rich history we have.

Noche de Ninos was hosted on Thursday June 22nd and it welcomed a lot of new comers to the museum. Director Kuchek highlight that the Musuem Associates have been a large supporter in community outreach.

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Built on Water: Our team submitted a conference proposal to Western Museum Association that was accepted. Two staff members will be hosting an inspiration station at the conference in October. They will be sharing our *Built on Water* VR experience and the Water Keepers app.

Community Outreach: The museum hosted 61 fourth graders in Built on Water in May. And we will be hosting OMSD summer school for eight visits in July.

Exhibits:

The 12th Biennial Ontario Open Art Exhibit is open now through July 30th. July 22nd that's when the closing reception will be held and the Musuem Associates will be presenting the awards to the artist.

Collections:

The team has started the inventory and relocation of the Collection's office.

Other:

The Ontario Arts festival application is live and available through June 30th. We currently have over 60 applications.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Art Program

Museum Arts and Culture, Manager Kim Boganey presented on the City of Ontario's Public Art Program. Ontario City Council passed an ordinance which would shift the City's public art endeavors from the development code to the municipal code, establishing a public art program.

On June 6th the five-member advisory committee was voted on and established. They responsible for ensuring criteria established via the public art program is met for the planning and execution of temporary and public art projects; providing policy for the gift or long-term loans of public art; establishing criteria for developers to either integrate artworks into their commercial or industrial projects, or deposit fee into the City's public art fund, which is to be used toward creating public art; and defining process for City-commissioned and privately created murals.

Manager Boganey highlighted the following:

- The five Public Art Program Advisory Committee are: Maggie Latimer, John Machado, Mia Melle, Dr. Meranda Roberts, Dr. Wendy Slatkin
- The current Active Public Art projects: Utility Box, C Block/ Ovitt Community Library, National Fitness Campaign, West Valley Connector/SBCTA
- Public Art Fund- Art in Private Development requires that new projects and tenant improvements for certain project either place artwork on site or provide an in-lieu deposit into the City's Public Art Fund.

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- New Projects: For buildings valued at \$5,000,000 or more, 1% of total valuation site for on-site placement, OR \$10,000 deposited into the Public Art Fund
- Tenant Improvements: For improvements over \$500,000, 1% of the total final improvement project for on-site placement, OR \$5,000 deposited into the Public Art Fund
- New development has about 15 projects depositing \$150,00 and tenant improvement has about 23 projects depositing \$115,000 totaling \$265,000. A long-term goal is how we can get developer to consider public art at their site.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES COMMENTS

None.

MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS

Board Member Shannon Gerstheimer thanked Kim Boganey for her presentation and stated that perspective of where we are headed as a city is exciting. I like when I go to a city and its just delightful to see public art. It gives a city character and beauty and for us to have that is a treasure.

Board Member Rick Caughman stated he believes everything is coming together wonderfully. He expressed appreciation and thanks to Kim Boganey and stated he is glad we officially have eyes out there looking for opportunities for public art.

President Chris Kueng stated he is proud to be a part of the board for so many years. And he has seen so many changes from when he first came on the board to where we are today. He stated, we are a true museum now.

Board member Christian Garcia sated he is very honored to be here. He commented on the fact that the city is going to be a destination in the next few years and he believes the museum is going to be a part of that. He expressed his pride in the fact that he gets to be a part of the next generation of the museum and the City.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday July 25, 2023 at 6:00pm in Historic Council Chambers

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Shannon Gertheimer with a second by Board Member Christian Garcia with a 4-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Submitted:



Kari Kessinger
Administrative Technician

APPROVED:



Chris Kueng
President

