

TENNESSEE CRAFT

Governing Board Meeting

June 10, 2023

MINUTES

Attendance:

Board members: JoEl LoGiudice – President, Audry Deal-McEver, Nancy Fischman, Kelly Hider, Jessica Wilson, Linda Nutt, David Taylor, Reneau Dubberley, Patricia Schwarz, Courtney Stone, Shaun Giles, Evan Roosevelt Brown, Allison Letson, Carlton Wilkinson, Paige Ward Moore, Donna Woodley

Staff: Kim Waag - Executive Director

Not Present: Christi Teasley (excused), Tiana Boisseau-Palo (excused), Vincent Lillegard, (excused), Jessica Hagar

Call to Order and Roll Call

JoEl called the virtually-held meeting to order at 10:05AM CT, and Kim conducted Roll Call.

JoEl acknowledged the presence of quorum.

Presence of Quorum – Affirmative

JoEl sought approval of Paige Ward Moore as Pro Tem Secretary for this Governing Board meeting, as the position of Secretary is now an open board officer position.

Motion to approve Paige Ward

Approval of Paige Ward Moore as Pro Tem Secretary
Kelly Hider moved. Patricia Schwarz seconded. All approved.

Approval of February 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

*Motion to approve the February 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
as penned by Candace Gooch-Ward
Reneau Dubberley Moved. Shaun Giles seconded. All approved.*

President's and Executive Director's Reports

JoEl expresses new challenges due to an open staff position and that Kim will present plan in this meeting. JoEl stated goals as Shop Tennessee Craft moving forward and becoming live with artist launch following contractor search, proposal negotiations, and onboarding.

Kim Waag presented the Executive Director report. Stated priority in the posting of the Director

of Programs and Community Engagement open position. Position will be open as of 6/23/2023. Discussions for new staff growth opportunities for staff are in process. As well as reevaluation of the position with current workforce needs of the organization, updates to procedure documentation, transition prep and implementation. Kim reported the current recruitment and staff re-organization plan. Former staff member plans to remain active on the Community Engagement Committee for the Black History Project as a community member.

Kim announced our grant was awarded for our FY24 Master Artist Apprentice Program (MAAP) for the 15th year. Tennessee Arts Commission MAAP increased our award for MAAP master, apprentice and admin support. Three master artists are now invited, and Kim asked that the board members recommend anyone that they may know. Masters artists are to reside in 3 different Tennessee regions and create in three different media. Masters and apprentices do not have to be Tennessee Craft members. Call for Apprentices, which is an application process, will open in August, once the Masters are secured. Masters receive \$3,000, funded apprentices receive \$1,900 each. Our FY24 Arts and Culture Grant will be in its 3rd and last year; FY24 funding totals \$66,330. Metro Arts Operating grant application submitted. Award announcement forthcoming. Prerequisite will be finalization of the Nashville Mayor budget, expected on June 20th. A heightened increase of applications was received by Metro Arts. Award announcement expected in July or August. We have received 148 Fall Fair 2023 application submissions at this time. Last year at this time, we had received 93. Application revenue will span FY23 and FY24 and will be discussed in the Board Finance Committee.

Search for Shop Tennessee Craft contractor engagement to complete the development is in process. All agreed that it is a priority for the organization to add to staff capacity. Muletown Digital will be approached first for an engagement, with request for a proposal.

A marketing engagement search for consulting services to solicit input towards a messaging foundation for Tennessee Craft to adopt. Through referral, a consultant who also consults with Muletown Digital will be approached for proposal of our mission/messaging marketing engagement.

To an inquiry of the geographic funding base of Metro Arts, Kim responded that is the Metro Government area only, Davidson County.

JoEl reemphasized Kim's call for referrals for MAAP Masters for our awarded FY24 program. JoEl announced that our FY2024 Tennessee Arts Commission operating grant was in an adjudicated year so it went before independent panel, and it received the highest score of all adjudicated applications.

JoEl solicited any further questions on Presidents' and Executive Director reports. Board members inquired on master and apprentice requirements and timeline of the program. Kim presented detail program model information, including application, apprentice interview

process, stipends deliveries, reporting requirements and program timeline, and added that this year, the FY2023 MAAP's fall exhibition, presented by the Tennessee Arts Commission, may be held virtual due to the commission relocating their offices and gallery to a new location in Nashville.

To MAAP inquiries from board members, Kim stated the required hours for each master and apprentice pair, Kim presented a minimum 80 - 120 hours. In December, each of the three apprenticeship pairs develop their goals plan which culminates into their signed contract. List of past MAAP masters and apprentices can be viewed on the Tennessee Craft website. The Tennessee Arts Commission website also features information and images of past MAAP exhibitions.

Discussion ensued as to requirements for the masters, and again encouraged referrals. One board member offered a verbal referral at this time.

Kim encouraged continual referrals for masters, workshop presenters, jurors, and others that can join us in offering services for our program implementations.

JoEl directed members to the President's and the Executive Director's Reports on our Google Drive and solicited questions. No further inquiries.

Members unanimously agreed to waive the agenda's break.

Quarterly Treasurer's Report and Budget

Financial Position report presented by Reneau. Strong cash position. Grant position awards and outlook strong. Increase in assets \$95K. Net income: \$107K.

Board Treasurer, following his financial report, solicited questions on the Position Statement. No questions presented.

Statement of Activities Report presented by Reneau. Performance near budget for income. Government contributions up, and foundation contributions down. But we are still in good standing and where we need to be. Increased fair revenue beyond projections. E-Commerce program remains with no revenue, but work is in process to alleviate it financially. Membership dues are above forecast. Positive trend.

Reneau solicited questions on income position. No questions presented.

Current expense financials presented by Reneau. During recruitment and onboarding in summer of CY2023 and again in spring of CY2024, salary expenses were decreased by ~10K. Reneau presented an interim Fair Program Report emphasizing a good increase in contributions and earned income versus previous years and plans to elaborate when craft fair program

financials are finalized.

Vanguard investments were presented by Reneau. Market increases is over budget forecast.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report

Patricia Schwarz moved. Allison Letson seconded. All approved.

Kim presented the FY2024 financial budget, and stated the budget has been approved by the Board Executive Committee and Board Finance Committee. Highlighted was that 4010 Government contribution line item will increase over budgeted \$101K reflected in the current proposed budget. And that our current 500K budget range has increased from our past years' \$300-400K range.

Fiscal 2024 budget forecasts a \$819.10 net ordinary income. A tight budget that will need close attention throughout the fiscal year.

Reneau emphasized the FY24 Budget is based on a full operating staff and is dependent on the timing. He presented, per inquiry, the handling of prior year net increase. Also noted that budget did not allow planned committee focus group initiative nor a Heritage exhibition. Members agreed with exclusion.

Kim emphasized that not all grant awards for FY24 have been announced, which could change our budget projections and shift strategic programming timelines for the new fiscal year.

Motion to approve 2024 Financial Budget

Patricia Schwarz moved. Nancy Fischman seconded. All approved.

Break given – 10 minutes.

JoEl resumed meeting at 11:20AM.

Board Member Spotlight - Donna Woodley. Donna gave an informative and insightful self presentation.

Kim directed attention to our FY2024-FY2026 Strategic Plan, thanked all for their hard work and contributions to our updated plan, and solicited questions. No questions or findings presented.

Motion to approve FY2024-2026 Strategic Plan

Patricia Schwarz moved. Reneau Dubberley seconded. All approved.

JoEl opened Standing Committee presentations.

Courtney presented upcoming Community Engagement and Outreach events. Saturday, June

17, 12-6pm – Juneteenth Black on Buchanan Block Party at Nashville Jazz Workshop with booth promoting the Black Craft History project and supporting the community mural designed by Donna Woodley. Encouraged board member interest to volunteer, two shifts: 12:00-3:00PM and 3:00-6:00PM, to assist with the mural painting project. This is a bonus outreach event for our FY2023 calendar, with no financial commitment required from Tennessee Craft! Our “entry fee” is assistance to the Nashville Jazz Workshop (NJW) to involve the community in the mural. Saturday, July 29, 8:00AM-2:00PM – Southeast Community Day in Antioch. Our first official outreach event of FY24. Last year we were a hit featuring Cesar Pita on the pottery wheel! This year’s demonstrator is TBD. Todd Herzberg is staff lead. Event opens to the public at 9:00AM, with set up at 8:00AM. At least two volunteers are needed to assist staff with set up/break down and greeting the public, one for each of two shifts – 8:00-11:00AM, 11:00AM-2:00PM.

Donna reported on the Exhibition Committee. Committee co-chairs Donna and Evan met with Todd last week to discuss upcoming exhibition committee objectives and develop the new committee’s mission and plans. First full Exhibition Committee meeting will be held later in the month. Current committee focus is the implementation of our September-October 2023 juried Member Exhibition at the Customs House and Cultural Center in Clarksville. Exhibition reception is September 14, 5:00-7:00PM.

Audry reported on the 2023 Spring Tennessee Craft Fair, and on two one-topic focus subcommittees that have been formed within the Fair Committee.

Kelly presented on the Professional Development Committee and announced the current search for presenters for the November 2023 Lunch and Learn series. Encouraged referrals from board members. Previous Scholarship Committee work is now under the work of the Professional Development Committee. Still receiving a low number of scholarship applications and encouraged all to promote our scholarship opportunities within their communities. To an inquiry of Lunch and Learn series presenter stipends, Kelly informed that each receive \$100.00.

JoEl opened New Business with chapter presentations.

Nancy presented on the Northeast Chapter. Chapter continues to support students at ETSU by awarding Tennessee Craft memberships, with recent award of 3. This is their way to recruit new and young members to Tennessee Craft. A 2023 Juneteenth exhibition will be held. Carlton Wilkinson is in the Juneteenth showing connection with the African American community in eastern Tennessee. One member received a scholarship. August meeting will be at Washington Center (art and craft center). 20-25 members usually attend each meeting. Active chapter engagement.

Patricia Schwarz: Southwest Chapter: Upcoming chapter member exhibition at WKNO Gallery July 3 – July 28, 2023. Included are online and in person events, and monetary artist awards.

Juried by the curator from the Brooks Museum, Urban Art Center, and the Dickson. Reception, July 9, 2023, 2:00-4:00PM. August workshop at the Medicine Factory, August 12th which now holds 19 artist studios. Artist Becky Ziemer, who often exhibits at the Tennessee Craft Fairs, will present a critter creation workshop for 10 attendees. Last month the chapter meeting was held at the Medicine Factory where the owner gave a tour of the space. Networking and communication Coffee Chats are held in person on the 2nd Saturday of each month in the old Sears building, now Crosstown Concourse, with a typical attendance of 5-10 members. Encouragement was extended to board members to visit Memphis and see the vertical city.

Courtney Stone: Midstate Chapter: Maker meetup meeting with Ashley Mintz on June 20, 2023. Ashley will present on self-care for artists to help sustain and improve their creative practice. Exhibitions – 3rd annual show at the Brentwood Library will run the entire month of July. Art of Craft (Tennessee Craft Member) exhibition at the Centennial Arts Center, with opening reception on August 4th.

Board Recruitment for CY2024. You will be hearing from the Nomination Committee and the Honorary Member Committee. Reminder to note craft art leaders onto the form found on through the board portal or on the Google Drive and continue to make referrals to Kim Waag. REMINDER made by JoEl to ask for referrals and donor leads, and thank donors by call, email, and/or written thank you notes.

Reminder for board members to make donations to Tennessee Craft by June 30, 2023. And to report to Kim any in-kind contributions of goods or services that you make as we now are required to track and report in-kind donation values on our financial statements. And continue to report your volunteer hours monthly to staff.

Carlton announces that he has been invited to be a resident artist at the Chale Wote Art Festival in Accra, Africa and spoke of his funding to attend.

Motion for Adjournment

Patricia Schwarz moved. Audry Deal-McEver seconded. All in favor to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00PM CT.

Next Board Meeting: August 26, 2023, 10:00AM-1:00PM CT, Virtual

Minutes respectively submitted by: [Paige Ward Moore](#) 8-18-2023

