

Ontario Museum of History & Art Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
April 25, 2023

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CALL TO ORDER

President Chris Kueng called the Museum Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:59 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by President Kueng

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:	President	Chris Kueng
	Board Members:	Rick Caughman
		Randy Del Turco
		Shannon Gerstheimer
		Jerry Weems
	Council Liaison	Debra Dorst-Porada
	Executive Director	Helen McAlary
	Museum, Arts & Culture Director	Marissa Kuchek
	Administrative Technician	Kari Kessinger
ABSENT:	Museum Associate Liaison	Leslie Sherwood-James

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 28, 2023, were approved by a 5-0 vote with a motion from Board Member Randy Del Turco and second by Board Member Jerry Weems.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON DEBRA DORST-PORADA

City Council Liaison Debra Dorst-Porada discussed the multiple developing projects throughout the city such as bike lanes, summer concerts in the park, the groundbreaking at the Great Park and the new housing projects.

Liaison Dorst-Porada also highlighted the challenges with creating enough affordable housing that the state now requires.

STAFF REPORTS

Director's Report

Education:

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Director Kuchek reported the Museum Education Team participated in two community outreach events, the City of Ontario's Community Open House and Mariposa Elementary School's Open house.

Director Kuchek reported that on April 7th a Museum Assistant facilitated her first program "Mindful Art Paint with Us". Where she brought previous teachings from a training at The Getty to the community. This program also utilized the Carlson Education Classroom for the first time.

The second program happened on the last exhibit day of *We the People*, artist Cindita hosted a college workshop allowing individuals to create artwork representing different themes related to the exhibit.

Education's upcoming workshops are the California native plant cookie decorating class in partnership with Dolce Vida by Lised on May 13th and an activity based on *Built on Water* for Culture Fest on May 20th.

The education department hosted both the De Anza community teen podcast team and the City's Library Teen Lab for tours of the museum.

Exhibits:

Director Kuchek reported that the current exhibit *We the People: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow* closed April 16th, 2023 bringing in over 1,500 visitors during its run.

Upcoming: 12th Ontario Open scheduled for May 18, 2023-July 30,2023

Collection:

Director Kuchek reported that the Collection Team has been prioritizing cleaning multiple artifacts for the *Built on Water* exhibit. She explained staff has cleaned pieces of the fountain, the trolley, and water meters.

The Collection Team is also working on the first phase of wall-to-wall inventory and utilizing more of the offsite storage space.

Other:

Lastly, Director Kuchek reported on phase two of the Museum's Master Facility Plan. The main topics focused on were: waterproofing, base basement retrofitting & elevator, improvements to exterior spaces to allow for additional program-driven use, the museum store, main hall wall signage, main hall kiosks, old jail, staff and visitor safety, wayfinding, site perimeter improvements, and potential upgrades to the kitchen for larger events.

Liaison Dorst-Porada asked about the roof, and Director Kuchek explained that it is a part of the Museum Master Facility Plan, but these listed items are the newer topics discussed. Director Kuchek also explained the pressing need for more collection storage.

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STAFF REPORTS

Culture Fest 2023

Director Kuchek presented on Culture Fest happening on May 20th, 2023. She explained that this is the first year the museum will lead the event and is a part of the Arts and Culture side of the department.

She explained the event will have a focus and theme of water to connect with the new exhibit *Built on Water* and will host a variety of entertainment, vendors, and art. This year's event is in conjunction with the quarterly Art Walks so the museum will be utilizing up lighting, a stage, and DJ to draw a crowd. The museum is expecting about 1,00 people for this event.

The event will host a variety of performance including: a Tonga performance by Motivating Action Leadership Opportunity (M.A.L.O.), a performance by Bob Baker Marionette Theatre, a rendition of Handel's Water Dance by the Southland Symphony's brass quintet, and a performance from Etiwanda High School March Eagle Regiment. Culture Fest will also have performances and volunteer support from the De Anza Teen Studio.

A public art installation entitled "The Glass Wall" by Lucina Abait will be installed the day of the event. "The Glass Wall" is an immersive installation with elements of sound that showcases the idea of water as a resource and what are the realities and metaphors of trying to control it.

Director Kuchek also highlighted the following elements of the event:

- Multiple food trucks on Lemon Street
- Ten different artist vendors
- DJ
- Open art galleries
- Using the Carlson education classroom as a green room for performers

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Board Elections 2023

Board Member Randy DelTurco nominated Chris Kueng for President with a second from Board Member Shannon Gerstheimer with a 5-0 vote.

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Board Member Randy Del Turco nominated Rick Caughman for President Pro Tem with a second from Board Member Shannon Gerstheimer with a 5-0 vote.

MUSEUM ASSOCIATES COMMENTS

None.

MUSEUM BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS

Board Member Shannon Gerstheimer stated that she is very impressed and amazed with the progression and amount of work being done by the museum staff. She expressed appreciation for the Museum's Master Plan and refocusing on some concerns that are a priority. She said she is appreciative of the vision and overall direction of the museum.

Board Member Del Turco commented on the fact that he is very pleased with the attendance of the exhibit *We the People*, it shows that we are continuing to let people know the museum exists and the tremendous response to the exhibits. He stated being involved with Culture Fest is excellent and wants to challenge the museum to make the event goers more aware of the museum.

Board Member Weems stated that he agrees with Board Member Del Turco. He also commented on the fact the people are starting to learn more about the museum, and wants to continue promoting the outreach.

Board Member Rick Caughman commented on Culture fest saying it sounds interesting to him since it is a newer event for the museum. He commented on the fact that museum staff continues to make progress and get things done.

President Kueng said all he can do is echo what the board members have said. He stated he is always impressed with everything we are doing and pushing and broadening our presence in the community. He says he is proud to be a part of this. He complimented Director Kuchek and staff for everything they have been working on. Thanked Executive Director Helen McAlary for attending the board meetings. Thanked Liaison Dorst-Porada for her continued support. And thanked the board members for their support in his role as president.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

None.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday June 27, 2023 at 6:00pm in Historic Council Chambers

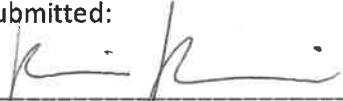
ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Board Member Rick Caughman with a second by Board Member Randy Del Turco with a 5-0 vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 PM.

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Submitted:



Kari Kessinger
Administrative Technician

APPROVED:



Chris Kueng
President

