

**Minutes of the Regular Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 24, 2015
Plasma Technology, Inc. Conference Room
1765 Oak Street - Torrance CA**



The meeting of the Arts Council of Torrance Board of Directors was called to order by President Norris at 6:50 p.m. in the Plasma Technology Conference Room, 1765 Oak Street, Torrance CA.

A quorum to conduct business was established. Attending the meeting were: Steve Norris, Patrice Lefevre, Janene Ferguson, Eileen Haussmann, Peggy Dowell, Sue Berliner and John O'Brien

Excused: Owen Griffith, Megan Willis, Jeannine Madden

The minutes of the January 27, 2015 meeting were distributed. Eileen Haussmann **moved** to approve the minutes with one correction. John O'Brien **seconded** the motion. **Motion Carried.**

The minutes of the February 7, 2015 General Membership Meeting were distributed. John O'Brien **moved** to approve the minutes with one correction. Eileen Haussmann **seconded** the motion. **Motion Carried.**

School Liaison Report: No report given

Treasurer's Report

Patrice Lefevre, Treasurer, distributed the Treasurer Report for period ending December 31, 2014 as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$ 4,124.71
Income:	500.00
Expenses:	<u>364.49</u>
Ending Checking Balance	<u>4,260.22</u>
One West Bank CD	\$ 9,619.39
Petty Cash	<u>50.00</u>
Total on Hand	\$13,879.61

Peggy Dowell **moved** to approve the report. Sue Burliner **seconded.** **Motion Carried.**

Peggy Dowell **moved** to pay a total of \$53.21 to Sue Berliner for reimbursement of expenses February General Membership meeting. John O'Brien **seconded.** **Motion Carried.**

Corresponding Secretary Eileen Haussmann reported she has mailed out cards for February birthdays. She will send a thank you to Ted Lange and Ron Libbrecht for speaking at the luncheon and a note of thanks to Ron Hust for sharing his and Ron Libbrecht's artwork with the Arts Council.

Steve Norris will compose a letter to the Mayor and Council Members thanking them for setting aside the funds for the updates to the Cultural Arts Center and James R. Armstrong Theatre.

1st V.P. Programs

Sue Berliner reported that the GMM meeting went very well. She expressed some concern that the costs other than the meal itself were not covered by the \$2.00 increase that was charged this year. Other costs include table decorations, invitation printing and mailing, complementary lunch and gifts provided to speakers, and other miscellaneous expenses. No action was taken, but this item will be considered when creating the budget for next year.

2nd V.P. Membership (Acting)

Peggy Dowell stated no change in the current members. Currently ACT has 60 paid members.

Arts Recognition Awards

John O'Brien reported that he received 33 applications at least one for each of the 11 categories. There were three no-shows at the judging.

The selections have been made and the cost of the cash awards will be \$3100.00, \$900 less than the budgeted amount. Names of the winners were provided.

John stated that the current dates for the submissions and competition may have had an impact for the lower than expected applications received. The Board may need to look at rescheduling this event next year.

City Liaison

Janene Ferguson distributed several flyers relating to activities presented by the City. Those included play dates by the Torrance Theatre Company, current exhibits in the Torrance Art Museum, Artful Days lectures schedule, Farmers Market flyer, and she also gave information regarding the *Cherry Blossom Festival* at Columbia park on March 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m..

Janene reported that the Torrance Arts Commission's grant applications would be available on March 9, 2015. Deadline for submission is May 7, 2015. Grants would be distributed in June.

Janene also provided a listing of the members of the Torrance Cultural Arts Commission along with home address to add to our mailing list. The Commission meets one a month and is difficult to send timely invitations and notices through the City's mail service.

City Council Update

Steve Norris stated that the City Council approved \$1.2 million dollars to be used to upgrade the Cultural Arts Center including the James R. Armstrong Theatre. The staff will be developing the plans of each phase that will be going to bid and eventually be implemented. Each phase must be approved by the City Council. He stated several people attended, besides himself, in support of allocating the funds: Byron Stefferud, TPAC; Linda Dryer, TPAC & ACT; Peggy Dowell, TPAC & ACT; Elijah Pressman TPAC (South Bay Ballet), Katherine Endo-Roberts, former Arts Commissioner and ACT. Megan Willis, TPAC & ACT had also spoken in support at a previous Council Meeting.

Steve along with TPAC Members will be monitoring the progress of the upgrade.

Fund Raising Projects

No action taken

New Business:

President Norris asked that the Board approve to pursue a grant offered to 501(C)(3) non profit groups by Southern California Edison to fund ACT's various programs, including new productions for the community which merge science and art. After a brief discussion, John O'Brien **moved** to pursue the grant; Eileen Haussman **seconded**. **Motion Carried.**

Peggy Dowell stated that the Board of Directors will need to elect a nominating committee to select next year's officers. Bylaws state the committee shall consist of 3 elected officers and 2 members and 1 alternate. A slate of officers recommended by the Nomination Committee is required to be mailed to members 30 days prior to the Annual Election held at the June 6th General Membership Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.
Next board meeting is scheduled for **March 24, 2015 at 6:30 p.m.**

Peggy Dowell
Secretary

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