

**Minutes
Arts Council of Torrance
Board of Directors
Thursday, May 25, 2017
Plasma Technology Conference Room**

President Steve Norris called the regular Board Meeting of the Arts Council of Torrance to order at 6:38 p.m. at the Plasma Technology Conference Room located at 1765 Oak Street in Torrance.

A quorum was established. Attending the meeting were: Steve Norris, Sue Berliner, Patrice Lefevre, Peggy Dowell, Janene Ferguson and Megan Willis.

Excused: Richard Whitehorse, Owen Griffith

Minutes

The minutes of the March 23, 2017 Board of Directors meeting were distributed to members by Secretary Peggy Dowell. Patrice Lefevre **moved** to approve the minutes as corrected. Megan Willis **seconded** the motion. **Motion carried.**

Janene Ferguson, Secretary Pro-Tem appointed at the April 27, 2017 meeting, distributed copies of the minutes from that date. Patrice Lefevre **moved** to approve the minutes as corrected.

Megan Willis **seconded** the motion. **Motion carried.**

Financial Report

Patrice Lefevre distributed copies of the Treasurer's Report for period ending April 30, 2017:

Beginning Balance - TCCU	\$ 13,242.89
Sally Stowe Arts Achievement Fund	1,660.03
Total Income:	\$ 2.60
Total Expenses:	\$ 1,498.21
Ending Balance	\$ 12,246.90
Sally Stowe Arts Achievement Fund	\$ 1,160.41
Petty Cash	\$ 50.00
Total Cash on Hand	\$ 13,457.31

Bills: Sue Berliner - \$83.25 expenses for GMM meeting. Patrice Lefevre - \$500 deposit to reserve Ken Miller Recreation space for 2018 Spotlight Awards Event, \$132. Deposit for rental of Library for Veterans Day Event 11-10-2017.

Peggy Dowell **moved** to pay the bills. Janene Ferguson **seconded** the motion. **Motion carried.**

P.O. Box Update

Patrice Lefevre reported that she has not rented a new post box as yet. She has written the owners of the business where we currently have our mailing box and asked if they would accept a reduced fee comparable to US Post Office fees. She has not had a reply to date.

Nominating Committee Report

Patrice Lefevre reported that the nominating committee that consisted of Patrice Lefevre, Sue Berliner, Janene Ferguson, Jim Hill and Pam Barrett Hill conferred by phone and were submitting a slate of only three officers. President: Patrice Lefevre, Secretary: Janene Ferguson, Treasurer: Sue Berliner. She expressed that she felt there was a need to refocus the Arts Council's goals and to rewrite the Bylaws.

Peggy Dowell pointed out that the Bylaws provided for seven officers and asked why only three were nominated and offered to serve as Membership Chairman if needed.

Patrice stated that if Peggy Dowell were to continue on the board she would resign as she felt that Peggy was "muddling" the Arts Council's purposes by her involvement in the Torrance Performing Arts Consortium. After lengthy discussion, Peggy stated she would consider not being a part of the Board next year, but made no commitment to do so.

Peggy also stated that none of the Nominating Committee members informed her of who was actually serving on the Committee so she could send notices to ACT members to vote to approve the committee as required by the Bylaws. Nor did any committee member submit the committee for approval by members. No explanation was given.

Patrice stated she saw no need for a Parliamentarian on the Board. Steve Norris stated that he did not agree and felt that a Parliamentarian was very important to have on the Board.

Chairmen Reports

Sue Berliner, 1st VP stated that she had received 10 reservations for the GMM so far. Steve Norris was asked to confirm with Sally Stowe Arts Achievement Award winner MacKenzie Kasden if she will be attending and speak at the GMM.

No report from 2nd VP Membership Richard Whitehorse.

Corresponding Secretary, Janene Ferguson reported that she had mailed six birthday cards, one sympathy card and get-well card the past month.

Janene also suggested that the ACT board review and update the Membership criteria and perhaps find ways in which to add incentives for people to join. She also suggested for the Board to reactivate a newsletter in some form to inform members of ACT's activities.

The board members agreed that both suggestions needed to be addressed in the future.

Torrance Cultural Arts Commission Report - No Report

Pacific Asian Heritage Month Event

Steve Norris reported that he was pleased at the attendance for the Pacific Asian Heritage Month Event and spoke highly of the two speakers included in the presentation, including the cast of a new musical "Letters to Eve". He indicated that Kathryn Endo-Roberts was anxious to join the Board of Directors. He indicated there have been at least 5 new members who have joined because of the events Arts Council has presented this year and anticipated several more people to join.

Rent-Free Classification Quest

Steve said he is getting closer to having the Arts Council reinstated as an organization able to receive a rent-free status for one event at the Cultural Arts Center with the help from some of our City Council Members.

TCF Expo

Janene Ferguson sent around a sign-up sheet for those who wanted to man the Arts Council Booth at the TCF Expo on June 24, 2017.

Steve Norris stated that the cast from "Letters to Eve" will be performing on stage on June 24th and will be giving credit to Arts Council of Torrance.

Announcements:

Steve Norris informed the board members that he will be directing "Rainmaker" for the Manhattan Beach Community Theatre company this summer.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Peggy Dowell
Secretary