

Minutes
Arts Council of Torrance
Regular Board of Directors Meeting
September 22, 2016
1765 Oak Street - Plasma Technology Conference Room

The regular board of directors meeting was called to order by Treasurer, Patrice Lefevre at 6:10 p.m. in the PTI Conference Room, 1765 Oak Street, Torrance.

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

Excused absences: Owen Griffith, Steve Norris

Copies of the Minutes of the August 25, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting were distributed. Patrice Lefevre **moved** to approve the minutes as printed; Janene Ferguson **seconded** the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Patrice Lefevre, Treasurer distributed copies of the financial report for period ending August 31, 2016 indicating the following:

Beginning Balance - Checking Account	\$10,242.20
Sally Stowe Achievement Awards Fund Balance	1,560.00
Total Income	100.03
Total Expenses	0
Ending Balance - Checking Account	\$10,242.20
Sally Stowe Achievement Awards Fund	1,660.03
Petty Cash	50.00
TOTAL CASH ON HAND	\$11,952.20

Peggy Dowell **moved** to file the report for audit; Janene Ferguson **seconded** the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Richard Whitehorse submitted a bill for \$47.00 for postage (Membership mailings); Peggy Dowell **moved** to pay the bill; Sue Berliner **seconded** the motion. **Motion Carried.**

Patrice Lefevre announced that as a result of the Grant Request she submitted to the Torrance Arts Commission, ACT has received a grant of \$500 to stage a "Poetry Slam" event next spring. Date and details will be discussed at a future board meeting.

Chairmen Reports:

Sue Berliner, 1st Vice President (Programs) has invited ACT Member Megan Willis to share her

poetry and poetic experience with the general membership at the GMM on Saturday, November 5, 2016.

Invitations will be mailed approximately 30 days prior to the luncheon. Peggy Dowell will provide mailing labels for the invitations. Megan will provide a short bio to be included in the invitation.

Richard Whitehorse, 2nd Vice President (Membership) stated he has mailed 80+ renewal letters and many have already sent in memberships. He reworked the membership list to include many previous members in an effort to encourage them to become a part of ACT as a member this coming year.

Janene Ferguson, Corresponding Secretary, stated she has send two birthday cards, thank you cards to teachers participating in Spotlight Awards, thank you to Destination Art for hospitality, and the Sally Stowe Achievement Award donor.

It was determined that Artoberfest would not be feasible this fall.

Megan Willis presented an idea to find ways in which to increase membership in ACT by younger adults by holding focus groups at El Camino College and Otis College of Art and Design. Her plan included recruiting 6 students from each school for the focus groups. She suggested a stipend of \$50 for each student. She would prepare a series of questions which would give us guidance on how to interest young adults into becoming active members of the Arts Council. There was some concern expressed regarding recruiting students from Otis as they too far from Torrance. After some discussion, it was decided to possibly review the proposal at a later date.

Peggy Dowell gave a brief review of the Leadership Meeting of Torrance Arts Organizations that was chaired by Eve Rappoport, Cultural Services Manager. Fran Fulton, Economic Development Manager, Carolyn Chun, Senior Planning Associate and Jamie Le, Community Relations Specialist presented brief presentations to the group regarding Marketing (Website) and Old Torrance Development. Eve stated she was proposing a Strategic Plan for the Arts. The group would be scheduled to meet again in approximately 3 months. Questions regarding the upgrading of the lighting in the Armstrong could not answered, only that the wheels of City government move slowly.

Two possible projects for the Arts Council were discussed.

1. Partnering with Destination Art, TAG, PTA to hold an art exhibit at the Destination Art Facility in Torrance of student art. Discussion was held regarding the display some of the Reflections artwork not forwarded on to District and State competition. This could also be adjudicated giving awards from ACT. The exhibit could acquaint parents with the opportunities

at Destination Art for classes when they view their child's art work on exhibit. Patrice Lefevre will check with PTA to see if they are willing to participate in such an event. Richard Whitehorse will check with Destination Art and TAG to see if they are willing to participate as well.

2. Janene Ferguson suggested a project to assemble art kits to be distributed to children and adults in the hospital as they are recovering. She will work up some possible ideas and costs to get the project going. ACT could initially fund, however, it was felt that this was a great project to also include businesses and individuals to participate. Janene reminded the board of the Torrance Arts Commissions Excellence in Arts Awards scheduled for October 23rd from 3 - 5 pm at the Toyota Meeting Hall.

The Board was also reminded to calendar the date of Thursday, November 10, 2016 for "The Poppies of Flanders Field" event at the Main Library in Torrance at 7 p.m.

Next meeting will be Thursday, October 27, 2016 at **6:30 p.m.** at the Oak Street Conference Room.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Peggy Dowell
Recording Secretary

Note: On September 22 and 23, 2016 a majority of the members of the Board agreed to exchange a Membership in ACT for web and facebook services rendered by Jeannine Madden who resides in Colorado.