

**Delaware Valley Arts Alliance
Board Meeting, Narrowsburg, NY
November 14, 2019**

Attendees: Allison, J., Dintiman, R., Greene, H., Harrington, S., Hust, D., Meyerson, J., Raazi, J., Roth, J., Stevenson, N. (phone), Sweeney, M., Lockwood, K.
Executive Director: Ariel Shanberg

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by President Allison.

Opening Remarks:

1. President Allison remarked that he and Executive Director Shanberg made a presentation earlier today for the Sullivan County Legislature, and it was greeted with approval.
2. A volunteer recognition event will take place on November 23 in DVAA's Krause Recital Hall, followed by attendance at "East Meets West" at the Tusten.
3. Board member Danielle Hilson has resigned effective October 22, citing family reasons.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Kristin Lockwood and seconded by Robin Dintiman to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report: The Executive Director's report was reviewed at the meeting. Significant highlights:

- Thanks to all who worked on the Frosty Myers event that was held on October 13; \$3,000 raised.
- The latest membership renewal drive has proved successful; we are at 343 members, and as of 11/14/19, we are just \$85 shy of membership dollars at the same time last year.
- Our auditor's financial review is in its final stages of preparation; because of staffing issues, the Exec Dir will get a quote from the auditors on charges to help finalize the new chart of accounts.
- The Exec Dir has implemented a monthly staff meeting to help with coordination and communication.
- Working with the Delaware Valley Opera, we are exploring lighting renovations at the Tusten Theater and how to fund-raise to pay for that project.
- *Art in Sixes* will open this weekend.
- Winter Salon and Spring Series need to be scheduled earlier, for purposes of marketing and grant applications.
- Individual Artist Fellowships for Arts for Sullivan (NYSCA) grants were reviewed. We will review this program because we received only six applications in the two categories (poetry and sculpture).
- There will be a panel on Dec. 14 for Arts for Sullivan grants; NYSCA's new guidelines indicate that DVAA board members may not serve on these panels.
- A publication celebrating 30 years of Riverfest and posters is planned.
- It's also the 30th anniversary of DVAA managing the Tusten Theater; we will schedule an event, possibly in April or May.
- The Exec Dir plans to update the policies & procedures manual for the staff.
- Discussion of improving copyediting in DVAA materials. Janice Meyerson, Mary Sue Sweeney Price, and Jean Raazi all volunteered to proofread materials before they are printed.

Finance Report: Treasurer Kristin Lockwood reviewed the minutes from the November 12 meeting. Significant highlights:

- October bank account reconciliations were reviewed.
- Form 900 and Char 500 returns are being finalized for filing by November 15, or an extension will be requested.
- The committee reviewed the balance sheet and profit & loss, with no unusual items noted other than that full grant funding from NYSCA has been received.

Committee Reports have been sent by email. Additional information is below:

Executive Committee: The committee has not met; but the annual strategic planning retreat needs to be scheduled, possibly on Jan. 18, 2020, in place of the monthly meeting. As in past years, Sheila Morrell would facilitate. President Allison will solicit board member availability for January 18.

Re-Branding Initiative: Committee chair Dan Hust distributed logo and color-palette options; the committee will vote on them. Details must all be decided by December 31 in order not to incur additional fees by Media Solstice in the form of a new contract.

Advocacy Committee Report: Nothing to report

Fundraising/Membership: Committee chair Jean Raazi reviewed the minutes from the Nov. 6 committee meeting. Significant items:

- The end-of-year appeal will include a board match appeal. Jean Raazi will ask for board member participation.
- Exec Dir Ariel Shanberg discussed Fair Game Arts Grants, geared to arts organizations near the area of the casino; he will be applying for a \$5,000 grant.
- The Fundraising Committee has recommended a planned-giving investment plan. Two options were presented. The Board approved the option that invested funds equally between a short-term cash flow, capital, and endowment funds. Mary Sue Sweeney Price made the motion to approve the option; it was seconded by Jean Raazi.

Board Development: In light of Danielle Hilson's resignation from the board, citing family reasons; the Development Committee will meet to discuss a replacement candidate for the remainder of her term.

Program: Committee cochair Nancy Stevenson reviewed the minutes from the Nov. 7 committee meeting. Significant items include:

- Committee will meet next with visual arts director Rocky Pinciotti. They will look for a possible date when he can attend.
- Reviewed the initiative to upgrade the lighting at the Tusten Theater, working with the Delaware Valley Opera.

Finance: See Treasurer's Report

Facilities:

- Sean Harrington will patch a section of asphalt in the DVAA's driveway when weather permits, before winter.
- Kudos to Sean for raising the display boxes in Signatures and securing them to the wall.

Old Business: Hester Greene requested posters for the Tusten series to distribute in Honesdale. Exec Dir Ariel Shanberg will get them for her.

New Business: Nothing to report

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dan Hust and seconded by Sean Harrington to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Meyerson, Board Member