

Friends of the Visual Arts
dba **Willamette Art Center**
Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES

<i>Date</i>	March 12, 2025
<i>Time</i>	5:30 - 7:00 pm
<i>Location</i>	Willamette Art Center

1. Call to Order

Carla Axtman called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm.

2. Consent Agenda - ***ACTION needed***

- a. Minutes
- b. Financial Report - Umpqua Checking: \$112,750.82; Petty Cash: \$397.00; Money Market: \$53,919.76

Wendy Cornelisen moved to approve the consent agenda. Renita seconded. No further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Executive Director Authority - *Carla*

- a. Contracting

The question at hand was whether the board felt Lisa had the authority to choose whether services could be entered into via contract or employment. The board was in consensus that Lisa should have authority to determine the best path forward regarding how administrative needs should be met.

4. Grants

- a. TOT application for Raku Booth at State Fair - ***ACTION needed***

Lisa shared that the TOT board awarded WAC a reimbursement grant of \$10,000 for the Raku Booth normally held during the Oregon State Fair. She contacted the fair staff to inquire about how it would work to host the raku firings given that WAC would not have access to the staging area of the studio.

Dana made a motion to tell the TOT board that we do not want to accept the \$10,000. Renita seconded the motion. The motion passed with 6 votes in favor and two votes opposed.

5. Fundraising - *Josie*

- a. Major donors: Searching for friends, family, colleagues as potential donors
- b. Board and patron stories
- c. Sponsorships - Draft
 - Which businesses in Salem and Marion/Linn/Polk County are philanthropic?
 - Who has ties to businesses they could talk to for potential sponsorships
- d. Events
 - Paint your own raku or stroke and coat event
 - Gift items for those who give over a certain dollar threshold - thoughts and ideas
 - Other events/ideas

Plan a town hall for updates and fundraising.

6. 2025 Budget - *Wendy*

Wendy reported on the work of the budget committee.

7. Workshops Update - *Dana*

Dana reported on the workshops being held in March. \$2,385 is currently the net profit for the workshops.

8. Volunteer Event Report - *Renita*

Renita shared how the volunteer event went. That we had a good number of people participate and the raku was popular.

9. Communications - *Lisa/Carla*

a. Post June communications with WAC community

How do we connect with the community while closed? Do we hold monthly meetings during the physical studio closure until a new location opens?

Lisa addressed the status of looking for new buildings and the process that has been happening.

The Board felt meeting dates should be set soon for community meetings in July, August, September or for however long the studio is waiting to reopen.

It was suggested that video messages be shared on social media and the website.

It was noted that the language around this change in studio should be considered. Particularly the word "closed."

b. Newsletter - *Pam*

10. Other business

Dana Field reported on the work of the bylaws committee. She noted that elections and board terms are incongruous with the desire to have board members serve a full term.

She asked the board to consider whether we should ask members to update bylaws by calling a meeting before the studio moves locations.

Committee will meet soon to prepare changes for the board to review in April.

Carla shared the visioning document from the board retreat that pulled together all comments from the exercises in brainstorming. She asked the board to review and add comments.

11. Adjourn

Carla adjourned the meeting at 7:02 pm.

Carla Axtman, President

Recorded by Josie Hummert