

MACOMB COUNTY ART AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
October 6, 2020

At a virtual meeting of the Macomb County Art Institute Authority held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 at 4:00 pm, the following members were present:

Members Present:

Jennifer Callans  
Phil Gilchrist  
Jennifer Miller  
Rodney Tolbert  
William Wood

Absent: Ed Bruley

Others Present:

Salvador Salort-Pons, Director, President & CEO, DIA  
Eugene Gargaro, DIA Board Chair  
Julie McFarland, Public Affairs Officer, DIA  
David Flynn, Executive Director DIA  
Christine Kloostra, Exec. Director Marketing & Communications, DIA  
Jason Gillespie, Director of Educational Programming  
Judith Dolkart, Deputy Director for Art, Education and Programming  
Lillian Demas, Macomb County Rep. to the DIA Board of Directors  
Daniel Hart, Plante Moran

CALL TO ORDER

There being a quorum of the Authority present, the meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Motion made by Phil Gilchrist, supported by Rodney Tolbert. MOTION CARRIES

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt the agenda made by Phil Gilchrist, supported by Rodney Tolbert. MOTION CARRIES

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made to approve minutes from September 1, 2020 and September 29, 2020 meetings made by Rodney Tolbert, supported by Jennifer Miller. MOTION CARRIES

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public present. Open/closed 4:06 p.m.

PRESENTATION BY PLANTE MORAN OF ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT – Y/E NOVEMBER 30, 2019

Dan Hart reviewed the Independent Auditor's Report, Management's Discussion and Analysis and Review of Financial Statements. The auditor's responsibility to the Board is to make sure the financials are stated and comply with auditing standards. Overall the Authority received a clean opinion, which is the highest audit opinion. Balance sheet and income statement convert the general fund into an accrual adjustment. Consistent with prior years. No audit adjustments. Accounting policies are the same as prior years. Letter to the Board is a follow up on the pre-audit letter. Responsibilities and opinions are listed. No audit findings this year.

Motion made to receive and file by Rodney Tolbert, supported by Phil Gilchrist. MOTION CARRIES

DISCUSSION OF SERVICE AGREEMENT REVISION AND LETTER OF AGREEMENT

Setting up meeting regarding the carryover of funds from 2020-2021 and how we are adapting to the pandemic. Will review in 6 month blocks.

Dave Flynn commented that there has been positive meetings with the appointees within the last few months. Additional meetings will be set up with appointees within the next 6 months. Input is needed from the DIA and AIA appointees regarding schools and seniors. Lillian Demas feels the cautious approach is necessary now and into 2021. She suggested that when school is back in full session, a rep could be placed in the schools (artist in residence) working with the entire school district.

Jason Gillispie does not anticipate any in person field trips this year. They are looking at virtual options and have developed The Art Byte Videos to be used in the classroom and at home. Developing virtual field trips, which will be live and should be ready to go in November. DIA has a commitment from Detroit Public Schools and Utica Community or the Cultural Passport Program (the museum comes to you). 8 kits based on galleries are ready to be loaned out. A needs assessment will be pushed out to teachers and other educators in all three counties. The museum has invested in a 3D tour technology where you can explore the exhibits via computer. Lesson plans will go with it. 43 teachers were able to view this tour recently. Judith Dolkart indicated they have been receiving some preliminary requests for these tours. DIA Delivered pilot will be ready in December. Asian Gallery Kits will be available for elementary, middle and high school, piloting with teachers from all three counties. The will receive the kits for two weeks and requested to provide feedback. Inside the kits are objects connected to objects in the collections. Kits will contain activities on object base learning. 30 teachers applied for the pilot program. Salvador encouraged everyone to meet with ideas soon to start implementing in January. Dave will set up 3-4 meeting to move this along.

Rodney Tolbert sits on a senior board and commented that seniors are concerned about traveling by bus to the DIA. Also concerned that many seniors are not computer literate so these virtual programs will not be accessible for them. The DIA is piloting a program to bring art making kits to seniors. This will be based on objects in the collections. Thursdays at the Museum is a digital program providing seniors the ability to call in and participate. More information will be coming.

#### REPORT BY APPOINTEES TO THE DIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lillian indicated its time to enhance contacts with various districts. Need to reach out to those we have had minimal contact with. Community outreach projects have been maintained as indicated in the agreement. Julie McFarland indicated an open call for INSIDE OUT deadline is coming out. Deadline needs to be shared with the community. Julie will put together a one page list of things county residents can participate in now and will forward for distribution. Lillian asked if there is a PR plan. The DIA is sending our press releases thru weekly email. It goes out to 100,000 people weekly. Also shared on social media.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Gene commended everyone on making great progress under the circumstances.

Next Meeting will be held: October 27, 2020 @ 4:00 via teleconference

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 4:59 pm made by William Wood, supported by Jennifer Miller. MOTION CARRIES