



Call to Order/Roll Call:

Chair Rasmussen called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

Present: Craig Bell, Sonia Burklund, Kathy Couillard, Bob Gilmour, Sarge Harvey, Kristin Karwat, William Keyes, Theresa Lister, Thor Rasmussen, Thelma Ruffin, Pat Shelley, Joe Turner

Excused: Ben Champagne, William Ewald, Suzanne Skrelunas, Karly Schmidt

Absent: Indigo Dudley

Staff Present: Marsha Braun, Demetrios Scott

Approval of Minutes

Pat Shelley moved to approve the April 2024 minutes. Craig Bell seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

April 2024 treasurer's report was presented by Commissioner Bell. He noted that the Miscellaneous/Memorials revenue line item showed a much higher than anticipated amount due to memorial contributions for a number of individuals during this fiscal year. Bell also gave a further explanation of the rent expense for general clarification. Kristin Karwat moved to approve the treasurer's report, seconded by Theresa Lister. Motion passed.

All Area Arts Awards

The 34th Annual Awards was held at the Dow Event Center Red Room on May 1st. Approximately 225 people attended the celebratory evening featuring Courtinnum during the reception and the SASA Steelers, steel drum band for the Call to Celebrate. A final accounting will be presented at the June meeting. The lower attendance and fewer sponsorships will be reflected in the net proceeds for the event.

Saginaw Celebrates Summer

The 2024 event calendar has been delivered. Director Braun encouraged commissioners to take calendars for distribution to friends, family, co-workers and others. WNEM TV5 morning event coverage will begin June 7 and continue through the summer.

Michigan Arts and Culture Council

The Michigan Arts and Culture Council new grant portfolio was released May 1, applications for all grants are due by July 24, 5 p.m. Grant program has changed significantly, the commission will apply for multiple grants for FY25.

Art @ the Andersen

Demetrios Scott announced that *Women Behind the Lens* opened on May 6 featuring the photographic works of Nyesha Clark, Jessica Grefe, Alexandria Jones, Tricia Lewis,



and Anita McKeith. The exhibition will run through July 3. Working with WNEM to feature the exhibition on their afternoon Lifestyle show in June.

ARTS Roundtable and Artist Mixer

Demetrios will begin work on scheduling for both programs, with plans to have both up and running early fall.

Chair Report

Chair Rasmussen asked commissioners to share the summer calendar with their circles and to attend events, explore community venues, and to encourage visitors to do the same.

Director Report

Braun introduced Demetrios Scott as the new Marketing Manager. Save the date for the Art & Garden Festival, Wednesday, June 12, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. and for the Jazz in the Garden concert series that will begin July 10 and run through July 31 on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. We will be in need of volunteers for both events.

Announcements

Commissioner Burklund announced that she has begun a new chapter in her design career with a recent move to Feige's Interiors as a designer. Chair Rasmussen commented that we're seeing big names performing at the Temple Theater in 2024, including: Itzhak Pearlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Steve Martin and Martin Short among others. Discussion ensued about how fortunate we are to have many successful entertainers from our community... Paul Walter Houser and Brian d'Arcy-James to name a few.

Adjournment

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m. Commissioner Turner moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Shelley. Motion passed.

Recorded by:
Marsha Braun, Executive Director