

**Richmond Art Center Board of Directors  
Board Meeting January 25, 2024**

**Board Members Present:**

Michael Dear, President  
Lina Velasco, Vice President  
Paul Collins, Treasurer  
Nettie Hoge, Secretary  
Monique Ziesenhenn  
Jane Diokas  
John Boychuk  
Rachel Sommovilla

**Documents provided via email**

Financial Statements  
Directors Report  
October 26, Minutes  
Agenda  
Resumes and statement from prospective Board members Tia Foss and Amy Feitelberg  
Two separate Board Resolutions regarding preliminary appointment of Tia Foss and Amy Feitellberg

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call. Announcements regarding upcoming RAC events were shared.

Michael called the meeting to order at approximately 5:50, noting a quorum was present

Paul moved to approve minutes from the October 26 meeting which were attached to email notice They were unanimously approved,

**Financial Report**

Paul reminded the board of its responsibility to review and approve minutes. He noted cash flow improvements, and stated that the dip in reserves had improved slightly

He noted projections in the budget were dependant upon IRS payroll tax forgiveness coming through and a significant grant from Lesher.

A brief discussion followed concerning the conservatism used in RAC budget projections. Although methods are very prudent, if they are overly conservative in projecting deficits, it can make discussions with funders more difficult.

Highlights in the Financial Report included, and overall net loss of \$17,385. This was compared to a budgeted net loss \$195,900

Income for July-December, 2023 exceeded the budget by \$131,833

Expenses for this same period totaled \$665,904, which was under budget by \$46,681.

## **Director's Report**

Jose summarized the report he had prepared and circulated. He discussed a potential grant from Lesher. He also reported that hoped for state support that had been discussed with Nancy Skinner was off the table because of State Budget tightening. All state funding for organizations like the RAC has been discontinued.

Jose has been asked by the Emeryville City manager to consult with Emeryville on the possibility of Emeryville creating an Arts Center, similar to Richmond's. Jose reminded the Board of the importance of such recognition for future fundraising efforts.

Two elementary school tours have been conducted in January and two more are scheduled for February. Jose and staff are planning the summer session and enrollment numbers are looking good. Summer camp is also in planning stages. 40 classes were held in the fall and 45 will be running in winter.

Staff burn out is becoming an issue and bringing in part time help will aid education front desk.

IT has been an issue for the RAC and Jose is exploring the possibility of leaving the city for RAC IT.

Michael and Jose received notice from Helen Duhe that she cannot attend meetings because of health concerns and will step down from the Board. They accepted her resignation and thanked her for her service.

## **New Directors**

Thanks to the ongoing efforts of Monique, the Board was able to review applications including resumes and personal statements from two new prospective board members, Tia Foss and Amy Feitelberg. The Board was reminded that new members must be approved at the annual membership meeting. Because the Board membership has fallen below the minimum required by RAC By laws, the Board may appoint new members on an interim basis. They may serve until they are finally approved by the membership. For this reason resolutions appointing the members on this interim basis were presented to Board members.

After a discussion of the qualifications of each of the prospective members, Rachel moved and Nettie seconded a proposal that both resolutions be approved. Rachel's motion was unanimously adopted by the voting Board members, and both nominees were approved to serve on the RAC board on an interim basis, to be finally approved by the membership at the Annual Meeting in Summer of 2024.

## **Retreat Planning**

A brief update on retreat planning was presented and discussed. A general consensus suggested that the retreat would be beneficial, especially considering the addition of two new members. Possible February for March dates were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44.

Submitted by Nettie Hoge, Secretary