

RICHMOND ART CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2024 BOARD MEETING

Board Members Present:

Michael Dear, President
Lina Velasco, Vice President
Nettie Hoge, Secretary
Tia Foss
Jane Diokas
Christina Saavedra

Staff Present:

Jose Rivera, Executive Director

Michael Dear opened the meeting at 5:50. A quorum was not present, but no votes were required. Michael referenced the board retreat earlier in the month stating it was a great success. He reminded us that the Wehrle exhibit was canceled due to John's health challenges. Rather than reschedule, the exhibit has been put off for at least a year, until approximately April 2025. Michael commended the staff who have done an excellent job at filling in the schedule and providing support for interesting shows, including one featuring the work of RAC students.

Financial Reports

Paul Collins provided the Treasurer's report via memo, as he could not attend, although he had attended the Financial Committee's meeting the night before. He stated he was mildly optimistic about the organization's financial position. The organization managed to complete the last reporting period in the black. He commended RAC leadership efforts to secure grants and to control costs. He once again reminded the Board that we are far from "out of the woods" and must remain very vigilant about fundraising. We are using reserves at an unsustainable rate, and the delay in IRS's payment for Covid related payroll tax forgiveness creates additional challenges.

The full financial reports were provided to the Board via email. Highlights include the fact that total equity month ending February 2024 exceeded the previous month by over \$56,000.

Total Income for July 2023-February 2024 was \$978,575, exceeding the budget by \$326,370. Expenses for the same period totaled \$872,061 which was under budget \$49,461.

ED Report

Jose summarized the written Directors Report that had been provided to the Board via email. Highlights included the \$135,000 Lesher Grant. The RAC is also waiting for \$236,302 from the IRS which has been approved but not yet awarded and \$9,000 from the city of Richmond which is delayed for unknown reasons. Discussions followed about the best way to advocate to the city about the substantial delay. February also saw about \$1,400 in new memberships. Zellerbach has promised \$12,000 to support exhibitions, and the Rotary club has been approached to support gallery repair work, specifically for lighting upgrades.

The RAC end of year appeal is coming up.

Jose mentioned that new shows were moving along at top speed, including the Main Gallery show of Contra County Youth. The mayor of Richmond is scheduled to visit the gallery and has once again committed to displaying 10-15 winners at City Hall.

Jose also reported that RAC is hiring a General Opps person to give much needed assistance to the staff.

Discussion of Board Responsibilities

The meeting transitioned to focus on new initiatives generated by the Retreat and by the ED and Board President's articulation about the "Next Gen" vision for RAC direction.

A More detailed Concept Plan was presented by the President, including explanations of roles (link attached), and a list of board assignments also attached as a link. [RAC BOARD & NEXTGEN.docx](#) Detailed explanations were provided by Michael and all board members agreed to report on progress at the April meeting. [RAC BOD 2024 WORKING GROUPS.docx](#)