



Thursday, March 28, 2024 – 5:30 PM, Founders Room, The Lincoln Center

**CALL TO ORDER: 5:41 PM** 

### **ROLL CALL**

- Board Members Present –Sheri Emerick, Kelly Mosher, Vicki Fogel Mykles (Vice-Chair), Audra Vaisbort
- Board Members Remote Conner Horak-Flood, Leslie Walker (Chair)
- Board Members Absent Jessica MacMillan
- Staff Members Present Solara Clark, Kim Manajek
- Guest(s) –

# **AGENDA REVIEW**

• Katy Schneider is unable to attend the meeting. She emailed some Visit Fort Collins updates that Vicki Fogel Mykles will read during New Business.

### CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

 Approval of January 2024 minutes. Leslie Walker made a motion to approve the minutes. Audra Vaisbort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Approved by roll call, Ayes: Sheri Emerick, Conner Horak-Flood, Kelly Mosher, Vicki Fogel Mykles, Audra Vaisbort, Leslie Walker.

# **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Katy Schneider Director of Marketing, Visit Fort Collins Update
  - Vicki Fogel Mykles read the emailed updates (written below) from Katy Schneider to the Board.
  - "Lodging tax saw a slight dip for January and February, but hotels seem to be optimistic about the rest of spring and summer. Fingers crossed."
  - "Visit Fort Collins will be moving the downtown visitors center into a portion of the former CooperSmith's Pool Hall later this year. There will be opportunities in the new space for artistic programming ranging from visual installations, small scale performances, TedTalk-style programs, and other opportunities. Keep an eye out for an invitation to the grand opening celebration."
  - "In December, based on a pitch we (Visit Fort Collins) sent in early 2023, Visit Fort Collins hosted journalist Melanie Allen for two days in Fort Collins. The pitch and her focus was on the arts/music/entertainment scene in the community. The article was syndicated through AP News to several national publications/websites. A fantastic win for the arts and culture community here. We also worked with Denver's Channel 7 on a segment about things to do that





# REGULAR MEETING

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- included the Gregory Allicar Museum and, later, the Gardens on Spring Creek. We'll keep spreading the word far and wide!"
- "In an effort to differentiate Fort Collins from other content that leans heavily on outdoor recreation on Colorado.com, we have purchased more articles that feature arts and culture and appear prominently on the Fort Collins page of that site which garners millions of unique views each month."
- 2024 Program Support Grant: March Deadline Discussion and Funding Recommendations
  - Solara Clark reviewed the 2024 Program Support Grant: March Deadline Funding Results and explained how scoring and available funds affects the amount funded per application.
    - The Board discussed and reviewed twenty-seven 2024 Program Support Grant: March Deadline applications and funding recommendations.
    - The Board took special note to discuss how they can help Fort Fund nonprofit grantees in the future through a variety of workshop topics based on the applications they scored in this round.
    - Board members asked for clarifying information on some of the applicants.
      Solara Clark and Kim Manajek addressed any confusion.
  - Kelly Mosher made a motion to accept the funding recommendations. Audra Vaisbort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Approved by roll call, Ayes: Sheri Emerick, Conner Horak-Flood, Kelly Mosher, Vicki Fogel Mykles, Audra Vaisbort, Leslie Walker.
- Capacity Building Workshop Series Priority Topic(s) Determination
  - Solara Clark explained the topics that were most commonly seen in the top three when Board members were asked to send their priority rankings. The three topics are:
    - Board Development
    - Audience Development/Retention/Involvement
    - Fundraising/Grant Writing/Fiscal Responsibility
  - After brief discussion, the Board decided to begin with Fundraising/Grant Writing/Fiscal Responsibility but to include Corporate Sponsorships/Donor Development and make it a series of financial topics over a course of three workshops.
    - The Board is asked to think about who could be potential facilitators to hire for the workshop and to inform Solara Clark at the next meeting.
  - Super Issues Meeting Overview Sheri Emerick and Kelly Mosher
    - Kelly Mosher described her experience at the Super Issues Meeting as a casual networking event to meet people from other Boards.
    - Sheri Emerick spoke positively about her experience and shared that other Board members were impressed with the Cultural Resources Board





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and the Fort Fund Grant Program.

- Sheri Emerick asked why the event is called "Super Issues Meetings"
  - Solara Clark explained that Super Issue Meetings are intended to engage Boards and Commissions in broader discussions about issues other Boards and Commissions are working on or are interested in. The meetings are produced and managed by the City Clerk's Office.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- Kim Manajek updated the Board on department operations:
  - For 2023, volunteers at The Gardens on Spring Creek provided 13,549.79 hours of service.
  - The Fort Collins Museum of Discovery has two artists from Mexico in residence working on the community alebrije sculpture. On April 4, from 5-7pm there will be a community celebration event.
  - The Live at the Gardens Concert Series lineup, in collaboration with The Lincoln Center, will be announced on April 1. Members at the Gardens will get first access to tickets. This series is a big membership driver for the Gardens.
    - In collaboration with the Bohemian Foundation, there will be two additional concerts to take place in September with a later date for announcements.
  - o May 18 and 19 is the Spring Plant Sale at The Gardens on Spring Creek.
  - The Gardens on Spring Creek will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 8. On May 8 from 5-7:30pm will be the Birthday Bash Celebration Event.
  - The Gardens will be hosting the Origami in the Gardens outdoor exhibition this summer. The VIP event will be May 30 and the public grand opening will be June 1.
  - Monday, April 1 is Eileen May's, our new Director of Cultural Services, first day.
    She will attend the April CuRB meeting.
  - The Community Center for Creativity will open to the public in July.

# **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

- Kelly Mosher attended Canyon Concert Ballet's performance of Picture of Dorian Grey, the Fort Collins Symphony's Magnificent Mozart performance and Larimer Chorale's performance of The Creation.
- Conner Horak-Flood went to CSU Dance's BodySpeak performance and Come From Away at The Lincoln Center.
- Sheri Emerick attended Come From Away at The Lincoln Center and informed the Board of the Gregory Allicar Museum exhibitions.
- Vicki Fogel Mykles went to the Larimer Chorale's performance of The Creation





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### **OTHER BUSINESS**

• Solara Clark reminded the Board to fill out the Liaison Interest Form as soon as possible.

# **ADJOURNMENT:**

Sheri Emerick made a motion to adjourn at 7:07 PM. Audra Vaisbort seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Approved by roll call, Ayes: Sheri Emerick, Conner Horak-Flood, Kelly Mosher, Vicki Fogel Mykles, Audra Vaisbort, Leslie Walker.

Respectfully submitted, Solara Clark Project Coordinator

