



Waterloo Region Arts Fund Minutes
June 15, 2023, 3:00 pm
Meeting held electronically
150 Frederick Street, Kitchener, Ontario

Members Present: Karen Redman, Susan Scott, Jax Rula, Lindsay Golds, Adam Qualter, Debbie Knepper, Carol Ann Treitz, Kari Williams, Emma Campbell, Raechele Lovell

Members Absent: Peter Shannon, Alix Vox

1. Call to Order

Lindsay Golds, Co-Chair, commenced the meeting by calling it to order, and the Board members proceeded to introduce themselves to Raechele Lovell, the newest member of the Board of Directors.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest Under the Conflict of Interest Policy of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund

L. Golds declared a pecuniary interest with respect to item 6 on the closed session matter due to her current working relationship with an individual related to current grants.

Jax Rula, Board Member, declared a pecuniary interest with respect to item 5.7 due her personal involvement with one of the grant applications.

3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Moved By Carol Ann Treitz
Seconded By Debbie Knepper

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the following minutes:

- Open Session - January 19, 2023
- Closed Session - January 19, 2023
- Open Session - May 15, 2023
- Closed Session - May 15, 2023

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

5. New Business

5.1 New Board Member

L. Golds indicated that this motion is for ratification, as it had already been circulated and approved through an email vote.

Moved By Susan Scott

Seconded By Debbie Knepper

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the appointment of Raechele Lovell to the Board of Directors beginning June 15, 2023 for a term ending December 31, 2025.

Carried

5.2 Imagining Equitable Futures - Next Steps

L. Golds indicated that this motion is for ratification, as it had already been circulated and approved through an email vote.

Moved By Jax Rula

Seconded By Lindsay Golds

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund approve the expenditure of up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) to contract the Department of Imaginary Affairs to support the transition to the new Region of Waterloo Board of Directors.

Carried

5.3 Donation to RWF from Flash Waterloo Region

L. Golds addressed the Flash Waterloo Region donation, which amounted to \$3,784.64, to the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund to support a photography grant. She informed the attendees that a photography grant had been carefully selected, and the funds would be directed towards this successful grant.

5.4 Removal of 10% hold back

L. Golds initiated a discussion regarding the recommendation. Board members engaged in conversation exploring next steps, potential challenges, and potential implications for the art community.

Moved By Karen Redman

Seconded By Carol Ann Treitz

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund:

1. Approve the revision of the grant payment process so that 100% of the grant is released to the grant recipient upon receipt of the fully signed grant agreement; and
2. Revise the Arts Fund Grant Agreement to state the grantee's project must be completed and a Final Report submitted and approved before the grantee is eligible to reapply for funding for a new project.

Carried

5.5 Ratification of Grantee Requests (approved via email exchanges)

L. Golds indicated that this motion is for ratification, as it had already been circulated and approved through an email vote.

Moved By Adam Qualter

Seconded By Jax Rula

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund Board approve the following requests:

- Susan Fish (F20-101), Project: Like a Kiss (novel)- Project extension to July 1, 2023, at which time a Final Report will be due
- Nathan Voll (S22-77), Project: Merdeka, Merdeka- Project extension to end of January 2024, with a Final Report submitted by February 29, 2024
- Geoff Martin (F22-59), Project: Homegrown Essays- Change to project timelines (no change to Final Report due date) & budget allocations

Carried

5.6 Spring 2023 Arts Fund Grants

L. Golds informed the group about the peer review meeting that occurred on June 14, 2023 and proceeded to share an update on the meeting's outcome. She briefly outlined the process involved in selecting the recipients.

Following this, Board members engaged in a discussion about the peer review process and its effects on artist development and the community. They inquired about past peer review processes and sought clarification on the budget.

Moved By Lindsay Golds

Seconded By Susan Scott

That the following Region of Waterloo Arts Fund Spring 2023 applications receive Arts Fund grants in the amount of \$215,096.00, as follows:

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery Celebrate 30 Mosaic, 10 King St W Mural, A Month of Stolen Light, Canadian National Wildfowl Carving Championship, Mandala Meditation Circuit, Looking Back and Looking Forward, Ellis Little Local History Room Wall Mural, Be The Change Music Video, Brambles EP, SOS: A Story of Survival - Part II: The Body, Alpha, Fauna of the Grand River, Annelies, Stories in Ink: Elevating the Voices of Equity-Seeking Communities, Placemaking, Casting Call, Heartbreak and Hardening, Reproduction, Through A Historical Lens, Everything all at once or nothing at all, Landmarks of the Region of Waterloo, Lost in my Head, The Hip Hope Mixtape, Fake Meets Fiction: AI, Analogue, and Art, Sight Specific Series, Grand River Flamenco Fest's Main Weekend & Encore Party, John McKinley Band Jam, Late Company, Jack and the Spare Hearts - live performance development and presentation, Homecoming, "Comfort Women" (TTBD), Corporate Finch.

Carried

5.7 Final Report Review Update (C.A. Treitz)

J. Rula exited the meeting due to her previously declared pecuniary interest.

Carol Ann Treitz, Board Member, provided an update with regards to the final report review. She elaborated that the team had assessed 16 final

reports, approving 13 of them. Notably, one report was not approved as the project had disintegrated, leading to a return of funds.

5.8 Transition update (verbal)

L. Golds delivered a verbal update, announcing that R. Lovell has officially joined the board of directors. In addition, there's an upcoming meeting scheduled between L. Golds, R. Lovell, and Susan Scott, Co-Chair, to discuss various topics, including current processes, peer review, the portal, and application timelines. The discussion will also touch on new member integration and contingency planning.

R. Lovell expressed her enthusiasm and readiness to be a part of the board, assuring that there are sufficient board members for a smooth transition. She also highlighted the eagerness of the group of artistic leaders she's assembling to take on board responsibilities.

The current board members welcomed her to the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund.

6. Motion to go into Closed Session

Moved By Karen Redman

Seconded By Kari Williams

That a closed meeting of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund be held on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at approximately 4:00 p.m. electronically, in accordance with Section 239 of the "Municipal Act, 2001", for the purposes of considering the following subject matter:

- Personal matters about identifiable individuals related to current grants

Carried

7. Motion to Reconvene into Open Session

Moved By Karen Redman

Seconded By Adam Qualter

That the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund reconvene into Open Session

Carried

8. Correspondence

None.

9. Other Business

L. Golds mentioned that comprehensive communications concerning the transition and forthcoming steps would be distributed to the board members via email. She took a moment to recognize that this was the final meeting for a number of board members and conveyed heartfelt appreciation to all the members for their dedication and hard work in supporting the arts community in the Region of Waterloo.

In response, board members expressed their gratitude towards their colleagues and extended their best wishes for success to the incoming board members.

10. Next Meeting

To be determined.

11. Adjourn

That the meeting adjourn at 4:48 p.m.