

**Friends of Carrollwood Cultural Center
Board Meeting
December 16, 2020
Carrollwood Cultural Center**

Meeting was held at the center and on Google Meet

Board Members Present: Bill DeMare, *President*, Neil Smith, Craig Nowicke, Sophia Denicolo

Online: Alan Preston *Treasurer*, Evelyn Bless *Secretary*

Sophia Denicolo left the meeting at 12:49

Board Members Absent: Susan Baxter Gibson, *Vice President*

Staff Members Present: Paul Berg, Executive Director

Guests: Nancy Manning on line

Call to order, quorum present, at 12:03 p.m. Bill DeMare, *President*.

Pledge of allegiance

Public comment: none.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Neil Smith

Second: Sophia Denicolo

Motion passed: 6-0

2. Consent Agenda approval: Board Minutes-November

Bill DeMare made a correction and gave a written paper to the secretary and read the changes to the board.

Motion to approve as amended: Neil Smith

Second: Craig Nowicke

Motion passed: 6-0.

3. Nomination of Jenifer Mirin to the Board: Bill DeMare introduced the new potential board member, Jenifer Mirin. He and Neil Smith are recommending her to be approved as a board member. Bill invited her to answer questions from the board. Evelyn Bless invited her to ask questions of the board.

Motion to approve Jenifer Mirin as a member of the board: Neil Smith

Second: Alan Preston

Motion Passed: 6-0

4. Bill DeMare requested a motion to re-affirm the loan that was approved at the last meeting for \$ 64,000 from First Citrus Bank.

Motion to approve: Neil Smith

Second: Craig Nowicke

Motion Passed: 6-0

5. **Annual Meeting:** Bill requested suggestions for when to have the meeting. It usually occurs in February, and there needs to be a physical presence to approve the last year's minutes. Evelyn suggested that the board publish the "state of the union" in February but have the meeting later in the year.

Bill DeMare moved that the board delay the annual meeting until sometime in 2021 due to the uncertainty of the pandemic. Paul will put out information about the center.

Second: Alan Preston

Motion passed: 6-0

6. **New Directors:** Neil Smith suggested focusing on recruiting from the Carrollwood area. Bill DeMare suggested that the center contact corporate sponsors and see if they have members in their company. Bill suggested looking at Jesuit and Gator connections, mentioned by Neil, in order to find some "younger" members. Sophia Denicolo brought up the difficult financial commitment and the possibility of volunteer or in-kind options. Bill suggested that the board think about the contribution issue, and that board members talk to friends and children of board members. Bill said that we need a corporate sponsor for the center. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.
7. **Executive Directors Report:** Paul stated that the county funds, \$85,000, will be in the account by tomorrow. The cultural center actually had a lot of good things happen in 2020 such as facility improvements, Ruth Levy is retiring at end of the year. The permanent piece for the live-streaming center is being installed as we speak. Aaron Washington is interim artistic director with Richard Haerther retiring this month. Staffing changes will be happening in 2021. There is a potential partnership with Stageworks. In February there will be a cabaret with Stageworks as an HOA activity. CARES funding projects are being completed and invoices for reimbursement will be submitted to the county.
8. **Finance Update/Audit:** Alan reported that we have a line of credit of \$126,000 which will be covered by the county funds. The center is doing very well. Alan is working on getting the audit set up.
9. **New Business:** none
10. **Unfinished Business:** At the last meeting the board asked about the legality of approving things on line. Paul is going to look at the dates that would be involved. Nancy Manning reported that the Governance Committee has made some small changes to the application. Evelyn Bless reported on what the Governance committee will be working on.
11. **Round Robin:** Board members welcomed Jenifer Mirin to the board. Evelyn talked about what the board could do to thank the staff and said that she has written a draft of a message to them. She will send it to Bill for distribution. Paul mentioned a line from "It's a Wonderful life" from last weekend; the center did well because "nobody lost their heads". Paul thanked the board for this. Linda stated that she is excited about the new doors being installed and how helpful this will be for volunteers. Jenifer said she was glad to be on the board. Craig supported board meetings with people in person. Neil stated that the board meeting was very productive; the center is better off than most are. Bill thanked everyone: staff, board members, and committees for allowing me to work with you. It's been an easy year because everyone worked together.
12. **Adjournment Time:** 1:16

Submitted by:

Linda Delapenha, Recording Secretary

