

# Oregon Cultural Trust Board Meeting Minutes



---

May 2, 2024

Astoria, Oregon

---

**Board Members Present:** Sean Andries, Chair; George Kramer, Vice-Chair; Nathalie Johnson; Bereniece Jones-Centano; Myong-Hui Murphy; Nicki Price; Deb Schallert, Gayle Yamasaki

**Board Members Absent:** Gustavo Morales; Chris Van Dyke; Sen Bill Hansell, Rep John Lively

**Staff Present:** Kat Bell, Grant Officer; Raissa Fleming, Trust Assistant; Carrie Kikel, Communications Manager; Brian Rogers, Executive Director; Aili Schreiner, Trust Manager, Liora Sponko, Senior Program Manager

**Partners Present:** Adam Davis, Oregon Humanities; Subashini Ganesan-Forbes, Oregon Arts Commissioner; Kuri Gill, Oregon Heritage Commission; Katie Henry, Oregon Heritage Commission

**Others Present:** Nathan Buehler, Business Oregon; Jennifer Crockett, Liberty Theater; Roberta Lavadour, Oregon Arts Commissioner; Jenny Stadler, Oregon Arts Commissioner

## Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Andries called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. He shared the poem, *Embrace*.

## Minutes: February 22, 2024

Kramer said under board discussion the first paragraph needs to be proofed. Niki said her name wasn't spelled correctly. The minutes will be fixed and brought to the next board meeting for approval.

## Board Discovery Discussion

Andries introduced the topic of whether the Cultural Trust to pursue combining with the Oregon Arts Commission and whether we should pursue leaving Business Oregon. He opened the floor for discussion.

Discussion about the draft motion and edits to be made.

Motion:

Andries moved (with agreed edits):

The Oregon Cultural Trust and the Oregon Arts Commission are committed to preserving, protecting, and increasing resources for Oregon's arts, heritage, history and humanities sectors. In response to a request from the Governor's Office, the Oregon Cultural Trust leadership offers a vote of confidence for the following:

1. We are seeking to deeply engage in exploration for the possibility to build a constructive joint governance structure with the Oregon Arts Commission that could lead to semi-independence from Business Oregon.
2. We are committing to the above-mentioned exploration in meaningful partnership with the Oregon Arts Commission.
3. We acknowledge that this good faith effort of exploration may or may not lead to the actionable items of creating a semi-independent entity. At the possible juncture of not leading to actionable items, we seek assurance that current status quo will remain available to both the Oregon Arts Commission and the Oregon Cultural Trust.
4. We seek to create a joint exploration committee (official name tbd) to move this project forward and discuss potential governance structure. This joint committee will be composed of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Oregon Cultural Trust and the Oregon Arts Commission respectively, PLUS one leadership member at-large from each Partner entity. This committee's role will be determined and approved by the respective leadership bodies of the Oregon Cultural Trust and the Oregon Arts Commission before strategic work begins.

Yamasaki seconded. *Motion passed unanimously.*

### **Budget Spending Plan Review**

Rogers presented report. Discussion followed about the intent of the higher administrative budget. Rogers explained that the budget will officially be approved at the August 22, 2024, meeting.

Discussion about sharing more budget detail with the Board. Rogers will schedule a one-hour Zoom meeting to share more detail.

### **Strategic Plan Review**

Schreiner presented report. Andries said the Ambassador program works a lot like the coalitions so he hopes there will be crossover. Yamasaki suggested we have another coalition gathering with the partners.

### **Marketing and License Plate Update**

Kikel presented report. There was a brainstorming session about innovative ways to promote the Trust.

### **Conversations with Funders, Grants and CNP Updates**

Schreiner presented report.

### **Executive Director Report and Legislative Update**

Rogers thought that they initially were going to the session to extend the sunset but that will be in the next session, 2027. Another bill that past was 150 and George Kramer has agreed to be on the committee. Leadership of the Trust and the Arts Commission meet with the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon. Business Oregon said we should submit a Policy Option Package to increase general fund but it is very competitive so it is more likely that the only one to get out of the arts program will be the extension of tax credit.

### **Cultural Partners Updates and Staff Report**

Henry presented report for the Oregon Heritage Commission.

Davis presented report for Oregon Humanities.

Gill presented report for State Historic Preservation Office.

Ganesan-Forbes presented report for the Oregon Arts Commission.

### **Public Comment**

Anne Mitchell, Wheeler County Coalition: Appreciates the opportunity to see and hear the meeting and the support and money for their organizations.

### **Executive Session**

### **Adjourn**

Andries adjourned the meeting at 1:12 pm.