

# OAKLAND COUNTY ART INSTITUTE AUTHORITY

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*Thomas Guastello, Chairperson*

Dr. Swarn Rajpal  
*Vice Chairperson*  
Gretchen Adler  
*Secretary*

Barbara Whittaker  
Jen Miller

September 14, 2023

Chairperson Guastello called the meeting of the Oakland County Art Institute Authority to order at 8:42 a.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Committee Room A at 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Bldg. 12E, Pontiac, Michigan.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Thomas Guastello, Dr. Swarn Rajpal, Gretchen Adler, Barbara Whittaker, Jen Miller

## **MEMBERS ABSENT WITH NOTICE:**

None.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Whittaker moved approval of the minutes of April 17, 2023, as presented. Seconded by Adler.

Motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Miller moved approval of the agenda, as presented. Seconded by Whittaker.

Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

David Woodward, Chair, Oakland County Board of Commissioners

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Amy Carter, Accountant, Oakland County Treasurer's Office, provided a brief overview of the Treasurer's Report for FY 2022-2023, Month 9, as of August 31, 2023. The report consists of the Oakland County Art Institute Authority interest earned, assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue, expenditures, non-expenditure payments, and the tax collection/payments that have been transferred to the DIA as of August 31, 2023. Ms. Miller inquired about what the estimated annual millage will be to the DIA from Oakland County for 2023. Ms. Carter indicated that she could provide that information to her via email.

Rajpal moved to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Adler.

Motion carried.

**ART AUTHORITY – DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE FY 2024 BUDGET**

Miller moved to approve the FY 2023 – FY 2024 Budget, as presented. Seconded by Rajpal.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**ART AUTHORITY – RESOLUTION FOR LEVY AND COLLECTION OF 2023 MILLAGE**

Miller moved to approve the suggested resolution and Levy and Collection of the 2023 Millage resolution and L-4029. Seconded by Whittaker.

Motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

**ART AUTHORITY – DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE DIA AGREEMENT WITH OAKLAND COUNTY**

The Art Institute Service Agreement between the Oakland County Art Institute Authority and the Detroit Institute of Arts, Inc. expires on December 31, 2023. A discussion was held regarding consideration of a new agreement with the DIA. Ms. Miller suggested that a study group be established to review the current Oakland County agreement with the DIA and provide recommendations to the Oakland County Art Institute Authority for a new agreement.

Chair Guastello appointed Barbara Whittaker, Jen Miller, Commissioner Marcia Gershenson and a representative, to be named, from the Oakland County Executive's Office to the Oakland County Art Institute Authority Study Group.

**DETROIT INSTITUTE OF ARTS (DIA) – CY 2023 HALF-YEAR UPDATE**

Introductions were given by all of those present from the DIA, including Ian Rapnicki, Public Affairs Officer of the DIA; Tony Smith, Vice President for Learning and Audience Engagement; and Gene Gargaro, Chair, DIA Board of Directors. Julie McFarland, Executive Director of Public Affairs & Community Engagement, provided a presentation on the CY 2023 Half-Year Report. The presentation included information about awards that the DIA has received, community participation with free admission, the school program, teacher professional development, the senior program and community partnership programs.

Ms. McFarland shared that there were 8,513 Oakland County students who participated in the field trips to the Museum for the first half of 2023. Due to challenges that some schools are facing with bringing classrooms to the DIA, the DIA is considering offering more in-school programming. Seniors can come to the Museum and participate in docent-guided tours with free transportation provided for groups of 25 or more. For the first half of 2023, there were 36 visits by senior groups to the Museum.

Regarding the Community Partnership programs, the Inside Out program is continuing through the end of October or possibly November. Applications for 2024 are being reviewed, and locations will be shared at a future meeting. The DIA plans to partner with Oakland County Parks and Recreation next year. Current year partnerships include Drop-In Artmaking at Fairs and Festivals, Minds on Art, the Community Group Studio Program, Oakland Community College and Arts, Beats & Eats.

Ms. McFarland shared information about the current exhibitions, including the James Barnor Accra/London exhibition, which is open until October 15, 2023; After Cubism, Modern Art in Paris, which is open until January 7, 2024; the Ofrendas; Celebrating el Dia de Muertos, which opens on September 23, 2023; and the Regeneration Black Cinema, which opens on February 4, 2024.

**DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF FUTURE MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

A discussion was held regarding upcoming meeting dates. The next meeting was tentatively set for Thursday, October 19, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

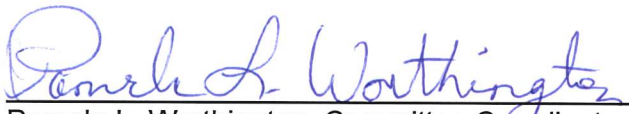
None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

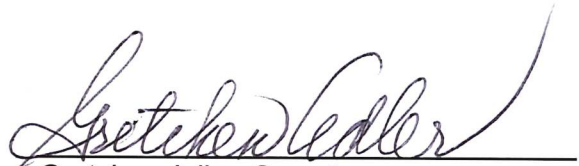
Rajpal moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Whittaker.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting adjourned at 9:37 a.m.



Pamela L. Worthington, Committee Coordinator



Gretchen Adler, Secretary

**NOTE:** The foregoing minutes are subject to Authority approval.