

## Meeting Information

<b>Event name</b>	DVAA Monthly Board Meeting
<b>Time</b>	Mar 13, 2025, 06:33 PM - 08:01 PM (EDT)
<b>Participants</b>	Board Members: Rachel Gordon, Dan Hust, Alessandra Iavarone, Kim Martin, Wendy Prince, Jane Roth, Ken Sable, Rennik Soholt  Staff: Ariel Shanberg, Tanner Simon

## Board Chair Opening Remarks

- Dan Hust welcomes Board Members to meeting.

## Review of Consent Agenda

- The board reviews the consent agenda, which included the minutes, executive director's report, committee reports, and other items.
- The Board approved the consent agenda with some amendments.
- Dan Hust makes motion to approve. Ken Sable Seconds. All in favor.

## Executive Director's Report

- Ariel Shanberg presents various organizational updates, including finances, upcoming events, and personnel matters.
- Shanberg reports on various ongoing projects and events, including record numbers of applicants for artist fellowships, an upcoming county grant cycle, and a members-only concert event on April 16th to energize the membership program.
- DVAA's finances are stable despite a delay in receiving expected grant money.
- Shanberg also updates on personnel hiring efforts for development associate and performing arts manager positions.
- Membership has continued to decline through February 2025. The board discusses the distinction between donations and memberships, with Kim Martin suggesting focusing on recurring gifts through memberships as the main fundraising engine. They consider donations as one-time events, potentially tied to fundraising events, while memberships offer ongoing benefits and community involvement. The board agrees to improve communication with all donors, regardless of membership status. They also discuss strategies for approaching potential donors and members, including the idea of automatically signing up donors for membership unless they opt out.
- The board inquires on dates for the Big Eddy film festival - September 23-26, 2025, and upcoming Riverfest - July 27, 2025.
- Shanberg to send meeting info to Wendy and Dan for the pro bono law team preliminary meeting scheduled for Tuesday morning.

## Treasurer's Report

- See Director's Report

## **Standing Committee & Workgroup Reports**

### Board Development

- Hust mentioned ongoing efforts to recruit new board members and will be calling potential new board members in the coming days and weeks.

### Executive

- Nothing to Report

### Facilities

- See Arlington Hotel Project

### Fundraising

- Hust recognizes Alessandra and Kim for their contributions.
- Committee has identified Saturday May 3<sup>rd</sup> for spring fundraiser.
- Alessandra to create a curated guest list for the May 3rd fundraising event.
- Staff to send out a save the date for the May 3rd fundraising event next week.
- Fundraising committee to finalize ticket prices for the May 3rd event by next Friday March 21.
- Kim mentions a fundraising training session scheduled for April 26th to help board members with effective fundraising techniques. Kim to follow up with an email about the April 26th board training date.

### Governance

- Nothing to report.

### Communications

- Nothing to report

### Programs

- The Program committee focused on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Committee set to start meeting in April.

### Capital Committee Reports

- See New Business

### **Old Business**

- Nothing to Report

### **New Business**

- 2025 Arts for Sullivan Community Arts and Art Education Funding Recommendations  
Tanner Simon, the Grants Manager presents a summary of the 2025 Arts for Sullivan SCR grant

program. The total funds available of \$63,000, while the total applicant ask increased to \$155,000. The program funded 30 projects from 27 grantees, with an average award of \$2,100. There was an increase in high-quality applications, with only those scoring 3.5 or higher (out of 5) receiving funding.

Staff looking into hosting grant-related workshops to help applicants improve their skills in budgeting and project narratives.

The award ceremony is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> at a location TBD.

Board members are encouraged to audit grantee events. Tanner to send out the grantee event calendar to board members and volunteers to support event auditing.

Rachel Gordon motions to approve funding recommendations for 2025 Arts for Sullivan Grantees. Jane Roth seconds.

- Thaler, Reilly, Wilson Architects Historic Structure Report & Adaptive Reuse Studies  
Board discusses the Hotel Arlington Project, recapping the meeting held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025..

The board discusses accepting the Historic Structure Report and Adaptive Reuse Study for a proposed \$12 million expansion project. Dan Hust explains this vote is only to formally accept the completed documents, not to approve moving forward with the project. The feasibility study is still ongoing, with results expected in late May. Rennik suggests incorporating revenue-generating elements into the design. Wendy expresses concern about the high cost but is reassured that voting to accept the documents does not commit to the project.

Jane Roth motions to approve accepting the documents. Alessandra Iavarone seconds. All in favor. The board votes to accept the documents.

### **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn by Rachel Gordon. Seconded by Ken Sable. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted on 04/9/2025 by,

Wendy Prince,  
Secretary, Board of Directors