

May 12, 2020
Full NCECA Board
Ring Central

In attendance: NCECA Board members Pete Pinnell (President), Merrie Wright, Mary Cloonan, Alex Hibbitt, Michelle Castro, Lisa Merida-Paytes, Tony Wise, Nancy Servis, Simon Levin, Eliza Weber, Lauren Sandler, Marsha Karagheusian, Brett Binford, Reena Kashyap, Ex-officio NCECA board members Chanda Zea, Rhonda Willers, Jeff Vick and NCECA Executive Director Josh Green.

Absent: NCECA Board members Holly Hanessian, Zach Tate,

7.05pm EDT meeting called to order by NCECA President Pete Pinnell.
A quorum is present.

1. Unfinished Business

i. Approval of the minutes:

The board approved the **motion to approve the minutes for the meeting dates listed below**. Motion moved by Brett, seconded by Tony, the motion was approved with 13 votes, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions. The minutes of April 14 were approved with the following amendment: On page 4. Under Annual: The Crocker Museum, change "*The whole museum*" to "*A good portion of the museum*"

- a. March 10
- b. March 17
- c. March 24
- d. March 31
- e. April 7
- f. April 14
- g. April 21

ii. Presidential Appointment of Jeanne Hulen to assist with board development work. (Rhonda)

(Per Guide to the Board, 2017, page 8, paragraph 1: "The President may also make non-Board member appointments to committees (other than EC) and task forces.")

Due to exigent circumstances, the board sees the need to appoint a *special advisor to the board serving in an ex-officio position*, to work on fundraising and development. The position is an urgent need for the board and Jeanne's track record in development makes her an excellent candidate. For the long term, we may seek to add a position to the full board with a full vote of annual members meeting.

The board approved the **motion: to give Jeanne Hulen a presidential appointment to assist with development and fundraising. She would serve as a special advisor to the board in an ex-officio capacity for a term of three years.**

Motion moved by Merrie, seconded by Brett, the motion was approved with 13 votes, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions.

Concerns:

- The board briefly discussed the concern that this particular appointment does not further the objective of having a fully representative board and highlights the need to address this challenge more fully.
- There is a need for significant staff support for this position. Some reorganization of staff responsibilities will need to be made. The current Covid 19 situation has removed the possibility of hiring another staff member to assist with development and fundraising at this time.

iii. Update on PPP loan (Josh)

Josh and Helen have been working to clarify details around repayment or forgiveness of the PPP loan.

iv. Consider proposal to return the conference to Richmond in 2024 (Josh)

The board approved the **motion: to authorize Josh and Dori to continue to continue to negotiate contracts to bring the conference back to Richmond, VA in 2024.** (Moved by Brett, seconded by Simon. The motion was approved with 13 votes, 0 oppositions, 0 abstentions

There are financial as well as philosophical advantages to returning to Richmond.

The board discussed issues of health and safety for future conferences and agreed that contracts with conference-city partners needed to align with CDC guidelines and procedures.

2. New Business

- i. Pete outlined changes to how we manage online full-board meetings as suggested by the Presidential circle.

- ii. The board discussed whether to call for a **motion to form a subcommittee to explore ways for NCECA to support our constituents during the Covid-19 pandemic** and decided to start the conversation on basecamp as a full board rather than to create a subcommittee at this time.

The board sees that there are serious needs emerging that are related to reopening ceramic studios, health and safety as well as the challenges of teaching and studying ceramics in emergency-driven modalities. To be able to support the creative thinking that is emerging from the community in a meaningful way, the board will work on the following:

Action item: Health and Safety: Source expertise and information on best practices for ceramic studios under covid19. (Simon, Josh, Board)

Action Item: Teaching Modalities: Source expertise and information on best practices for ceramic teaching and learning under covid19. (Alex, Board)

Action Item: Advocacy messaging to support the long-term preservation of studio-based work

Action Item: Advocacy messaging to support the right of faculty and students to not be pressured into unsafe working environments

Action item: Create (or collaborate to offer) a resource hub for information

Action Item: reach out to membership for content and feedback

- iii. **Anderson Ranch Scholarships for Conversations on Clay**

The Anderson Ranch has contacted the board to offer four places at a reduced cost for NCECA members to participate in their Virtual Workshop (Conversations on Clay) sessions this summer. Given the truncated timeline, the board agreed to fund four scholarships and reach out to the multicultural fellows to have them apply with a short impact statement. Alex and Eliza will read the applications.

Meeting is adjourned at 8.38pm EDT by Pete Pinnell.

Next meeting: May 26, 2020 RingCentral 7.00pm EDT

May 26, 2020

Full NCECA Board

Ringcentral

In attendance: NCECA Board members Pete Pinnell (President), Merrie Wright, Mary Cloonan, Holly Hanessian, Alex Hibbitt, Lisa Merida-Paytes, Nancy Servis, Simon Levin, Eliza Weber, Michelle Castro, Lauren Sandler, Marsha Karagheusian, Reena Kashyap, Ex-officio NCECA board members Chanda Zea, Rhonda Willers, NCECA Executive Director Josh Green.

Absent: NCECA Board members Brett Binford, Zach Tate, Tony Wise,

7.05pm EDT meeting called to order by NCECA President Pete Pinnell.

A quorum is present.

1. Announcements:

i. Cup auction update (Pete)

ii. New operating model task force has been meeting. (Rhonda)
Rhonda will lead a brainstorming session at the spring board meeting.

iii. Next full board meeting June 9 (7:00pm EDT)

iv. Other announcements

Simon has secured jurors for Emerging Artists for next year- Louise Cort and Brendan Tang.

2. Unfinished Business

i. **Budgeting process update** (Josh)

Josh is working on 3 budget options: A physical conference in Cincinnati, A virtual conference and a hybrid option. After conferring with Reena and the presidential cycle, It is highly unlikely we can work towards a traditional conference for 2021. To project what might be a more

realistic physical attendance figure, due to covid19 health concerns and its financial impact on members, registration data was compiled for conference attendees from both a 180 and 300 mile radius from recent conference centers. It is prudent to base an in-person or hybrid conference on smaller number of attendees. Based on AV needs, a hybrid conference would be the most expensive option. CMI has significant experience in virtual events and would be user friendly.

ii. **Anderson Ranch scholarship proposal**

- a. AR financial status (Pete) scholarships come from an endowment.

- b. Applications from Multicultural Fellows for scholarships
We were able to fund 6 scholarships for the conversations on clay series this summer.

iii. **Proposed Glaze Doctors session this summer** (Pete, Josh)

In anticipation of interest for a stand-alone session, this is in the planning stages.

iv. **Potential digital conference platforms**

Pete has been reviewing digital platforms.

3. Other business

i. **Update about programming for 2020 to 2021 (Mary)**

Tony made a “how to sheet” for recording video that has been shared with presenters.

ii. **NCECA Journal**

The board discussed how to address the journal, for both 2020 and 2021, given that much programming will shift to next year. There was discussion as to whether a print version of the journal is necessary in the future.

iii. **Sacramento Conference** (Nancy)

The conference committee and city are excited and planning. Covid 19 is the only concern.

iv. **Remote teaching resources** (Alex)

Alex has been in contact with Stephanie Rozene to begin discussion about partnering with NCECA to provide teaching resources. The board discussed the accessibility of health information for ceramic studios.

Action Item: Discussion with Clay Doctors about including Covid19 specific health advice in their event. (Pete/Josh)

Pete leaves at 7.45pm

v. **Proposed partnership for archiving NCECA materials with UNL libraries** (Josh).

Merrie, Holly, Rhonda, and Pete had a discussion with Richard Graham, from the Digital Media libraries at University of Nebraska Lincoln. They have resources to get everything digitized, optimized and can offer a secure storage area for all of our archive, digital or other. Financially, the benefit of their support is enormous, and it will allow for a huge increase in accessibility of the archive. A Specification has been put together. It would be easy to transfer the digital material from UNL later if we decided it was not a good fit. The board does not see a conflict of interest in this opportunity.

The board discussed the need to maintain the youtube channel, the visibility of content on youtube or vimeo as opposed to an academic database, the probable added workload of hosting content in different locations, and the need to continue to offer some content as paid content.

After discussion about whether the Spec should be put on the website to allow for proposals from other interested parties, and weighing the benefits and comprehensive nature of the support that UNL could offer, the board decided to approve the following motion:

Motion: To give the executive director, board steward, past president and special advisor to the board leave to continue working on an agreement with the media commons of the UNL library to house for active use the physical and digital NCECA archive.

(Motion moved by Alex, seconded by Reena, 12 votes in favor, 0 votes against, 0 abstentions.)

Meeting adjourned by Josh Green at 8.19 pm EDT

Next meeting June 9th 7pm EDT

Minutes respectfully submitted by NCECA Secretary Alex Hibbitt