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Minutes Board of Directors Meeting: January 10, 2003

The DaVinci Institute

Abstract

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**The DaVinci Institute
Board of Directors Meeting
January 10, 2003
Minutes**

The board of Directors of the DaVinci Institute met on Friday, January 10, 2003 from 3:00-4:20 pm at the Oklahoma Educational Television Authority. Those in attendance were: Manuel Prestamo, OKCCC; Bob Palmer, UCO; Teresa Brekke, Kirkpatrick Foundation; Susan McCalmont, Kirkpatrick Foundation, Mary Brodnax, UCO; John Dobson, OSU; John Clinton, Oklahoma A+ Schools, Betty Edwards, Rose State; Chris Markwood, UCO; Mike Gunzenhauser, OSU; Lee Neibert, St. Gregory's and Melissa Vincent, DaVinci Institute.

Those not in attendance were: Those not in attendance were Mark Parker, OCU; Paul Hammond, OBU; Linda Tiller, OU; Ben Bates, Langston; JoBeth Moad, OCU and Marvin Lamb, OU.

I. Welcome: Bob Palmer called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

II. Minutes. Bob Palmer asked for a motion to accept the minutes. John Dobson made the motion, Chris Markwood seconded, none opposed. Minutes were accepted as presented.

III. Financial Report – In the absence of Linda Tiller, Melissa Vincent presented a spreadsheet showing the expenditures and income for the DaVinci Institute emphasizing that this statement was not official but merely the budget used to insure that monies were available prior to any investigation of expenditures.

IV. Committee Reports- Education

John Clinton reported for the Oklahoma A+ Schools program. The first meeting of the selection committee was held January 10, 2003 from 11:30-2:00 and ten schools have submitted applications for consideration. Initially there was a concern for the small number of applicants but state officials assure that this is remarkable under the circumstances. John Clinton also remarked that he has been assured that the schools presently involved are all intent on remaining in the program. John Clinton also reported that a tri-state retreat is scheduled for the end of the month in Fayetteville involving North Carolina, Arkansas and Oklahoma. He reported that Rosalynn Wade is busy visiting schools and is excited about the progress and the upcoming year. Bob Palmer recognized the fact that the program is obviously doing well in that those involved are remaining and others are still interested.

B. Programming – Manuel Prestamo

Manuel Prestamo reported that three institutions are preparing to sign contracts for the Salzburg Marionettes to perform on their sites- OSU, OKCCC and Murray State. He added that collaboration is occurring that would also bring in Durant for the Moscow Boys Choir performances. He added that there is a possibility for collaboration with OKIE and OAI in securing a muralist in the upcoming year. Manuel Prestamo questioned the presence of money from the DaVinci Institute to assist in securing these and other ventures. He noted that the 2002-2003 year had earmarked \$25,000 of which there is apparently \$5,000 remaining but there is nothing in the budget for future programming. It was noted that a committee was named at the last meeting but that due to the holidays they have not met to consider the part in which the DaVinci Institute will hold in the future concerning this issue.

Bob Palmer requested information about the program possibilities that are available stating that he would be more capable of spreading the word if he had the programs in hand. Manuel Prestamo stated that his committee has found that the best mode of communication and organization has been to identify a "programmer" on the various campuses and via email or telephone connect directly with this individual. Mary Brodnax asked if any outside entities were being utilized at present. Manuel Prestamo stated that presently they have not but that when this is addressed there could be a tie to the Oklahoma A+ programs through workshops, professional development, etc.

Susan McCalmont asked if the programming committee has thought about lectures that might travel from campus to campus. Manuel Prestamo stated that this had not been a focus of the committee since most

campuses do not have discretionary funds available for such events. Susan McCalmont replied that the committee should look at maybe bringing in one lecturer to the various campuses. Bob Palmer added that this might make it easier to accommodate the various campuses. Manuel Prestamo stated that this type of programming would have to work through a different network. He also added that no campus would have the funds available to fund such events. Susan McCalmont responded that she was thinking of college professors who would accept the presentation possibility for travel and expenses. Manuel Prestamo stated that if it were funded it would have a better chance to garner interest. Bob Palmer asked if the various "schools" have their own network. Manuel Prestamo stated that they do but that they rarely see each other. Mary Brodnax stated that the program at OU organized by Helen DeBolt would be the model to set this by. Susan McCalmont added that the focus should be on an area that Oklahoma has the least amount of knowledge and has looked outside its boundaries to hire educators to instruct. Chris Markwood stated that this type of program would be well worth exploring. Susan McCalmont asked Melissa Vincent to survey the campuses and see if there is an interest. John Dobson suggested that instead of paying someone \$2500 to do a circuit lecture that we look within our own institutions for those willing to work for expenses. Possibly the art history instructors that have a very unique specialty. Susan McCalmont asked Melissa Vincent to contact the departments of the various campuses to find people who might be interested. Bob Palmer suggested asking the board if they felt this was something the campuses would have interest in. John Dobson suggested contacting the art departments first and developing a talent list. A suggestion was also made to possibly coordinate this with the Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

C. Public Awareness – Paul Hammond

Paul Hammond was absent and therefore no public awareness report was given.

V. Director's Report – Melissa Vincent

Melissa Vincent updated the board on the progress of the DaVinci Scholars nominations. A copy of the nomination application was included in all board members packets and Melissa Vincent requested that they all look over the information and forward any concerns to her prior to next Wednesday when she would mail them to the 23 eligible campuses. She added that a list of those institutions was included in their packet. Melissa Vincent next reported on the upcoming lecture of Ben Cameron and asked that the members of the board distribute the press releases and PSA's to their campus to help assist with advertising of the event. She ended her report with a report on the website stating that it had received 23 hits this month and three requests to be placed on the mailing list. She stated that it was rudimentary at this point but that it was reaching those interested in the organization.

V. Other Business

A and B. Addition of Board Members/Funding. Susan McCalmont addressed the importance of adding a committee or council that would consist of community leadership and advocacy patrons in order to assist with funding and organization of special events. She emphasized the need for the DaVinci Institute to possess a civic presence and possibly tie this presence into those who have strong connections with the institutions that presently support the organization. She added that this would also assist in expanding the public awareness and possibly garner more support. She asked the board for their thoughts on this expansion and any recommendations for those who might be appropriate to serve in this capacity. Chris Markwood commented that the addition was worth exploring. Lee Neibert asked if this committee would be one composed of people with money or if this would be the focus of future development. Mary Brodnax questioned if this addition would change the nature of the organization. Susan McCalmont responded that it was hoped that the membership of this committee would be those supporters of the arts who desired to contribute to its betterment and that as an additional arm of the DaVinci Institute would not change the original nature of the organization. Susan McCalmont and Melissa Vincent will present a proposal for the implementation of this committee or council.

C. DaVinci Pin Competition. Mary Brodnax introduced the proposal for the DaVinci Institute Pin Competition. Its purpose is to raise funds for the programs of the DaVinci Institute, create public relations opportunities and support student arts education. She informed the board that there is a very tight timeline therefore the campaign for the competition would be word of mouth. She has talked to Mark Palmerton who casted the statue on the capital about the casting of this pin. Mary Brodnax requested feedback on the pin cost, the material for the pin and if there is support for the prize money \$500 to the winner and \$250 to

the runner up. Manuel Prestamo asked how many pins would be made and Mary Brodnax replied that production would be held until 50 orders were in hand. She added that a grand scheme would involve placing the pin in boutiques and other stores for sale. Susan McCalmont added that the executive committee discussed the pin being used as the award for the DaVinci Scholars. John Dobson suggested making it into a medal. Bob Palmer questioned the benefit of awarding a runner up and Mary Brodnax replied that it is more for student incentive but also for a backup incase the first pin cannot be cast. Lee Neibert asked what it would look like. Mary Brodnax replied that it is detailed in the handout but that basically it would be 2"-3" with a simple design, no extremities due to the difficulty in casting and would not have a name on it. Mike Gunzenhauser asked if the pin had to have any language on it and Mary Brodnax replied that it did not in that it was open for creative free reign and not for advertisement. Manuel Prestamo asked if this was a one time competition and was told that this particular contest was but that if it proved to be something that garnered interest other contests could be developed but that the pin itself could be cast as much as possible. Chris Markwood added that it could be turned into an annual competition. Bob Palmer asked Mary Brodnax what she needed from the board and she replied that she need approval for the contest, the prize, and the type of prototype. Manuel Prestamo summarized that worse case scenario would be the pay out of \$750 and no buyer of the pin. Lee Neibert added that the prototype presently required would limit the entries and Mary stated that this was looked at but in requiring an actual pin prototype would ensure that casting was possible. Chris Markwood moved to accept the pin competition proposal as submitted. Mike Gunzenhauser seconded. Bob Palmer asked for further discussion. Manuel Prestamo asked if the \$750 prize money was in the budget and if there would be a pin to show. Melissa Vincent looked at her printout and stated that the money appeared to be available and Mary stated that the prototype would be an image of the pin. With that, all approved the DaVinci Institute Pin Competition.

D. Student Panel. Bob Palmer asked the board to take a moment to look over the proposal for the introduction of student boards for the DaVinci Institute. He informed the board that each campus would have a student board that would be headed by an advisor and from these boards they would pick officers and representatives who would report to the DaVinci Institute board any concerns or desires of the students. He asked for the board to give any feedback about this proposal. Chris Markwood asked if the proposal had to be approved today and Bob Palmer stated that it was not necessary but that it would be good to have them involved before the events in April. All agreed to look over the proposal and make comments at a later date.

VII. Other Business. Bob Palmer asked the board if there was any other business. There was not.

VIII. Adjournment. Bob Palmer asked for a motion to adjourn. Chris Markwood made the motion. Manuel Prestamo seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be March 14, 2003 at the Zoological Society. The February 7, 2003 meeting is a lecture featuring Ben Cameron and only immediate issues will be addressed.

VI. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2003 3:00 pm at OETA.