



# Ocala

## Municipal Arts Commission

### Minutes

110 SE Watula Avenue  
Ocala, FL 34471

[www.ocalafl.gov](http://www.ocalafl.gov)

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**Wednesday, August 7, 2024**

**4:00 PM**

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1. Call To Order

a. Roll Call

**Present:** Emily Andrews  
Jaye Baillie  
Arnold Barbaro  
Pedro "Tito" A. Comas  
Leslie Hammond  
Brooke Hutto  
Natalie McComb  
Greg Thompson

**Excused:** Jean Floten  
Darian Mosley  
David Reutter

2. Proof of Publication

The Public notice for the Municipal Arts Commission was posted on August 2, 2024

3. Approval of Minutes

There being no further discussion the motion carried by roll call vote.

a. April 3, 2024

**Attachments:** [OMAC draft minutes - 4.3.24](#)  
[Conflict of Interest\\_Baillie Jaye](#)

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Leslie Hammond

**SECONDER:** Arnold Barbaro

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and  
Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

4. Election of Officers

Elections of Officers were selected on April 3, 2024 Meeting

**RESULT:** PULLED

a. Chairman

b. Vice Chairman

5. Current Balance of License Plate Grant Fund
6. Grants/Applications
  - a. Ocala Civic Theatre - TAW grant application (approved) further information

**Attachments:** [MOU - Academy West](#)  
[Ocala Civic Theatre TAW grant application](#)  
[OCT OMAC Grant details](#)

Cultural Arts Interim Manager Emily Parkman provided a brief update on the initial grant application received by Ocala Civic Theatre regarding The Academy West which will be held at the Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place.

2. Associated fees

Ms. Parkman detailed the fees associated with participating in the program, which range from \$125-\$175. Each class will be limited to 15 students per class and will have two qualified instructors.

- b. Reilly Arts Center- Ocala Symphony Orchestra - Community Music Conservatory

**Attachments:** [OSO-CMC-OMAC Grant Application Packet \(May2024\)](#)  
[Conflict of Interest Natalie McComb](#)

Ms. Parkman explained that the Ocala Symphony Orchestra is proposing the Community Music Conservatory Scholarships program and is requesting \$3,600 in grant funds from OMAC to support either two full or six partial scholarships for students. The Conservatory is a mission-critical component of the Reilly Arts Center to meaningfully impact the community through the arts, specifically performing arts. These group classes and private music lessons provide much-needed community outreach to students who may not have access to them. The Community Music Conservatory opened in June 2022 and has grown significantly.

Ms. Hutto asked what the criteria were for receiving the scholarship. Natalie McComb, Executive Director of the Ocala Symphony Orchestra, stated that the scholarships are based on financial need and provided an overview of the process used to review each application.

Ms. McComb recused herself from voting on the grant, she is the Executive Director of Reilly Arts Center & Ocala Symphony Orchestra.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Brooke Hutto

**SECONDER:** Pedro "Tito" A. Comas

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto and Thompson

**RECUSED:** McComb

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

- c. Strategic Community Alliance, Inc. grant application for 2024

**Attachments:** [IRS Determination LTR STRATEGICCOMMUNITYALLIANCEINC 08MAY24 OMAC Grant Application SCA India Fest 2024](#)  
[08MAY24 SCA India Fest 2024 OMAC Grant Application](#)

Dr. Sheni Meghani introduced herself as President and Co-Founder of Strategic Community Alliance. Dr. Meghani is requesting a grant for Ocala Metro India Fest to be held on October 5, 2024 from 11:30am to 6:00pm at the Citizens Circle in Downtown Ocala. This is a free event open to the public. The event will include special stage shows such as Indian cultural performances, Indian fashion show, Saree Experience, and Indian Trivia/Quiz.

Dr. Meghani explains the participants of these shows will be individuals from diverse backgrounds, races, ethnicities, and age groups. The purpose of the project is to provide an enriching and hands-on cross-cultural experience to citizens of Ocala Metro, Marion County, and surrounding communities by sharing aspects of India's Art, history, culture, and traditions. Strategic Community Alliance, Inc is requesting \$2,000 from OMAC in support of SCA's Gentive Ocala Metro India Fest 2024.

Ms. Parkman stated Strategic Community Alliance have received two previous OMAC grants, one being within the last 12 months calendar year. Ms. Baillie asked a policy set in place stating only one per calendar year? Ms. Parkman explained that in the application it does state OMAC will provide 1 grant every 12 months/1 calendar per year.

Ms. Ballie asked if they are able to do a partial approval based on the funding we currently have available? Ms. Parkman stated yes.

Ms. McComb motion to approve partial funding at \$1,400 based on the current budget, and revisit the remaining request at the next meeting in review of the new budget.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Natalie McComb

**SECONDER:** Brooke Hutto

7. Project Updates

- a. Strategic Community Alliance, Inc., 2023 Diwali Celebration Final Report

**Attachments:** [Gentiva Ocala Diwali Celebration Program](#)  
[Gentiva Ocala Diwali Flyer](#)  
[SCA Ocala Diwali Celebration 2023 Pictures Report](#)  
[SCA Ocala Diwali Celebration OMAC Grant Recipient Report 2023](#)

Dr. Meghani provided an update on the success of the Ocala Diwali Celebration 2023. The event attracted 2,200 visitors from all parts of the State of Florida. Vendors, sponsors, ambience, performers, audience participation, effective outreach and seamless organization allowed this event to facilitate an enriching cultural and education experience for all; highlighting the curiosity, mutual respect, strength, unity within our diverse community.

- b. Strategic Community Alliance, Inc., Experience India Final Report

**Attachments:** [19APR24 OMAC Grant Report SCA Experience India Artist in Residence](#)  
[Artist in Residence Master Schedule](#)  
[SCA Experience India Artist in Residence Pictures](#)  
[Sponsors](#)

Dr. Meghani provided an update on the success of Experience India. From April 5, 2024-April 17- 2024 SCA facilitated and organized eleven events in Ocala Metro and neighboring communities. Enriching approximately 1000 individuals from diverse ethnicities and backgrounds.

- c. MCA - Ocala Metro Art Scene Final Report

**Attachments:** [Final Report June10 2024](#)  
[Marion Cultural Alliance OMAC Grant Recipient Final Report](#)  
[Conflict of Interest Baillie Jaye](#)

Ms. Jaye Baillie Executive Marion Cultural Alliance provided an overview of the Ocala Metro Art Scene and its new online platform. The \$2,500 grant from OMAC helped MCA acquire the platform for the benefit of all arts and cultural organizations (for profit and nonprofits) to promote events to increase cultural engagement and to build audiences for local arts, cultural, historic, and heritage.

- d. Ocala Steel Orchestra Inc Final Report

**Attachments:** [IJAPFO 2024 Flyer](#)  
[IJAPFO Photos](#)  
[OSO Grant Recipient Report Fillable Form](#)  
[Sean Thomas Resume](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the second annual International Jazz, Art & Blues Festival. The event took place at Mary Sue Rich Community Center at Reed Place on April 30, 2024.

- e. Jordan Shapot - HCA Silver Springs Emergency Department Ocala Mall mural project cancellation, grant funds returned

**Attachments:** [Shapot Mural Update](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an updated on the HCA Silver Springs Emergency Department

Ocala Mall Mural. Ms. Parkman explains Ms. Jordan Shapot advised the mural was no longer happening. Due to the long going litigation between the Ocala mall and the property owner, and the unknown future of the building, HCA has decided to pull out of the project.

f. Skatepark Panels from Levitt AMP Ocala - Accession

**Attachments:** [IMG 6351](#)  
[IMG 6596](#)

Ms. Parkman announced 15 panels have been painted by different artist during the most recent Levitt AMP concert series and all been installed at the skate park.

8. Other Business

a. New OMAC grant application forms

**Attachments:** [2024 OMAC application](#)

Ms. Parkman gave an overview of the new OMAC grant application and the new changes implemented in the new application.

**RESULT:** TABLED

**MOVER:** Jaye Baillie

**SECONDER:** Arnold Barbaro

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

b. City of Ocala Public Arts Policy vs. OMAC grant award

Ms. Parkman reviewed the Arts Policy vs OMAC grant award and provided background information.

c. New water tank mural project - partnership with FAFO, Ocala Mainstreet, Florida Wildlife Corridor Foundation

Ms. Parkman reviewed the New water tank mural project. Ocala Mainstreet is placing an open call for artist to create an engaging public art mural in downtown Ocala. The mural will be located on the water tank near the Downtown Market and replace the existing mural. The theme of this mural is Florida Wildlife with focus on local Marion County flora and fauna.

d. De-accessioning Artwork from City's Permanent Collection, process and Vote:

**Attachments:** [American for the Arts decommissioning conditions](#)  
[SOP - Public Art Deaccessioning](#)

Ms. Parkman briefly summarized the standard operating procedure of deaccessioning of Public Art and its purpose.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Natalie McComb

**SECONDER:** Greg Thompson

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

1. Crest of the Wave

**Attachments:** [Crest of the Wave\\_1](#)  
[Crest of the Wave\\_4](#)  
[Crest of the Wave\\_back close up](#)  
[Crest of the Wave\\_bottom right](#)  
[Crest of the Wave\\_displacement](#)  
[Crest of the Wave\\_right protrusion](#)  
[Deaccession Report\\_Crest of the Wave](#)

Ms. Parkman summarized the condition of the Art "Crest of the Wave". The sculpture is showing signs of deterioration of steel layers due to rust which is destroying the integrity of the sculpture. As the metal rusts, the layers come apart or are destroyed entirely. This poses a threat to public health and safety with sharp protrusions from the sculpture that could injure a citizen with possible risk of tetanus transmission.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Brooke Hutto

**SECONDER:** Emily Andrews

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

2. Natural Flow

**Attachments:** [Deaccession Report\\_Natural Flow](#)  
[Natural Flow](#)

Ms. Parkman summarized the condition of the Art "Natural Flow". There is substantial cracking and peeling of the paint around two thirds of mural. This is a result of element and UV damage throughout the murals life. The City of Ocala provides fiscally responsible services consistent with the community current and future expectations. Both cleaning and repairing the mural would be more than 50% of the mural value.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Emily Andrews

**SECONDER:** Greg Thompson

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

3. Marie and Jean

**Attachments:** [Deaccession Report Marie and Jean](#)  
[Marie and Jean 1](#)  
[Marie and Jean 2](#)  
[Marie and Jean 3](#)  
[Marie and Jean 4](#)  
[Marie and Jean 5](#)  
[Marie and Jean 6](#)  
[Marie and Jean 7](#)  
[Marie and Jean 8](#)  
[Marie and Jean 9](#)  
[Marie and Jean 10](#)

Ms. Parkman summarized the condition of the Art "Marie and Jean". The sculpture has been a target of vandalism damages there have been age and elemental deterioration specifically to the wooden interior frame and exterior. Current condition of the artwork requires additional major repairs.

Ms. Parkman is suggesting Marie and Jean be deaccessioned from the City Public Art collection and either 1.) return to the donor/artist 2.) donated to another gallery, museum, or other institution.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Natalie McComb

**SECONDER:** Arnold Barbaro

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

e. 119 S Pine Ave

**Attachments:** [pine ave mural Detail](#)  
[pine ave mural1](#)

Ms. Parkman provided an update on the Mural on 119 S Pine, communication was had with the business owner and informed them approval would be needed to keep the Mural. The business owner was advised of the responsibility and maintenance on keeping this mural if approved. The business owner does not want that responsibility and will be taking the mural down.

## 9. Public Comments

Steph Guierra suggested if the Artist that worked on the 119 S Pine Ave can be invited to the New water Tank Mural. Ms. Guierra also provided an overview of local photographers and suggested on archiving some of the amazing photography taken.

## 10. Staff Comments

None

a. OMAC meeting frequency - change to bimonthly (every 2 months)

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**MOVER:** Greg Thompson

**SECONDER:** Pedro "Tito" A. Comas

**AYE:** Andrews, Baillie, Barbaro, Comas, Hammond, Hutto, McComb and Thompson

**EXCUSED:** Floten, Mosley and Reutter

## 11. Board Comments

## 12. Next Meeting: October 2, 2024

## 13. Adjournment