

**TOWN OF KIAWAH ISLAND
ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, March 3 at 2:00 PM Council Chambers**

I. Call to Order:

Chairman David Wohl called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Members in attendance:
Attending: Joan Collar, Becky Hilstad, Jodi Rush, Dylan Keith, Kimberly Adele, Rob Cushman, Bill Blizard, Kristin Thompson, and Program Manager Caroline Wall

II. Approval of Minutes:

The March 6 minutes were unanimously approved with no discussion.

III. Old Business:

A. 2024-2025 Arts and Cultural Events Season Calendar and Financial Review

Review of past events: TUSK on March 18th sold out and the audience reception was very positive and the band was great to work with. 475 attendees, 506 tickets sold. Woodstock 2 was shown at a Film Series event, low turnout. The DaVinci Code movie did well.

IV. New Business

A. 2024-2025 Season Updates and Financial Report

Blues by the Sea is on April 13th and promotion is underway.

Jodi Rush filled in the group on the upcoming Piccolo Preview concert, planning has been slow as we wait on approved acts from the City but 350 tickets have been reserved.

The Council reviewed the annual expenses from 24-25 budget. David Wohl and Caroline Wall explained the basics of our funding, our projected budget increase, and the funding accounts we use from the Town to help develop a further understanding of the Arts Council's budget. Discussion was had about using ticket revenue from this season to pre-pay events for next season. Members were asked to review the financial documents and bring any questions to the next meeting. Caroline Wall alerted the Council that additional arts and cultural programming is being developed by her, separate from the Arts Council and its budget, on behalf of the Town.

B. Troubleshooting live sound

Sound quality for TUSK was improved from Atlanta Rhythm Section and Hope Sound was on-site early to test outlets and cables to mitigate power issues. However, there was an issue with Andrew not being available at the start of the show, delaying the start by 10 minutes while we tried to find him, which warrants a future conversation. The Council has had previous discussions about similar issues, to no avail. One option the Program

Manager could implement is having a vendor-client Memorandum of Understanding. Moving forward, we may bring in other sound techs for some shows on a trial basis, but this comes with increased costs.

C. Reviewing new Promotions Timeline

Caroline provided a “Marketing Timeline” sheet to organize our promotion of upcoming events and asked the Council to review it and come back with comments at the next meeting. Some members had asked at previous meetings for a return to physical show-specific posters, which Caroline will design but will need to be picked up and distributed by the event coordinators. Members must ensure managers and owners of business are aware and allowing us to post our fliers at their locations. AC members will also be responsible for iKiawah posts and other personal announcements and invitations. These need to be coordinated as well to prevent announcements going out at the same time by AC members. The Timeline and Calendar Caroline distributed is to be used collaboratively by the Council so as not to overlap promotions and determine what events need more promotion than others.

The first show of the 25-26 season will be Will Thompson Band at Freshfields at August 1st, which the Arts Council should intend to volunteer at as we will use it as a season kick-off event and hand out promotional materials.

D. Procedures and deadline for additional seasonal programming for '25-'26 season

David Wohl proposed a September 1st deadline for additional artist proposals. These may be new events or artists that weren't voted in originally. By July, we will know more about the budget increase, box office revenue for 24-25, and surplus to determine what the budget is for additional season additions.

E. Upcoming Annual Report and Audience Survey

Caroline is gathering information about the Annual Report. She presented last year's audience survey for the members, explained different approaches for this year's audience survey. The Council was asked to review the survey let Caroline know if they would like to add any questions to the surveys or make any edits or comments. The annual audience survey is sent after our last event in May and shared via our email subscribers and social medias. 274 people completed the survey last year out of the 4,000 recipients.

F. Other

Joan Collar asked Caroline why we have been selling tickets at events and saying we are presenting a false image by announcing shows are sold out but providing tickets there. David Wohl clarified that we are not “selling” tickets but instead are providing directions for them to purchase or simply transferring abandoned tickets.

The Arts Council revisited introducing earlier start times for shows. The Arts Council decided to keep 7:30 PM start times but are not against modifying start times given the situation or show.

V. Correspondence

A. Artists for Consideration: Charleston Men's Chorus

The Arts Council received a letter from Bob Hill from the Charleston Men's Chorus and David Wohl presented their materials for the Council to consider them for future season planning.

Joan Collar was contacted about The Lowcountry Singers having a Christmas performance.

Caroline Wall was contacted regarding a Tina Turner Tribute and shared with the Council.

VI. Chairman's Comments

None

VII. Public Comments

None

VIII. Adjournment

Bill Blizzard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:24 PM and the motion was seconded by Rob Cushman and carried unanimously.

Submitted by,

Caroline Wall

Caroline Wall Arts & Cultural Events Manager

Approved by,

D. Wohl

David Wohl, Vice Chairman

4/30/25
Date