PRESENT: EXCUSED:

Ms. Anne Candies Dr. Rachel T. Davis-Haley

Ms. Rhenea Carter Mr. Wood Delahoussaye

Ms. Janice R. Manuel Ms. Beth Scioneaux

Dr. Joe Ricks Ms. Robin Williams

Mr. Gary Solomon

Mr. Mark-Anthony Thomas (via phone)

Mr. Stephen Weber

Mr. Carlos Zervigon

EX-OFFICIO:

Mr. Silas Cooper

CALL TO ORDER

Board President, Mr. Gary Solomon, called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was taken. There were seven members present and one attending via phone though not able to vote. A quorum was present.

Mr. Solomon introduced two new Board members, Ms. Rhenea Carter and Mr. Stephen Weber. Ms. Carter shared that she is a NOCCA alum who graduated in 1991. She recently retired as Director of Front Office at the Sheraton New Orleans and has been with Marriot International for over twenty years. This placement on the NOCCA Board aligns with her goal of doing more community work. Mr. Weber, retired educator, spent his entire career in St. Charles Parish as a teacher, coach, and principal of all levels of education from elementary to high school. Mr. Weber’s daughter attended NOCCA prior to Hurricane Katrina. Mr. Weber spent about three months at NOCCA as an Interim Protocol Officer and is happy to return in this capacity.

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Chef Dana Tuohy, Chair of Culinary Arts, shared treats prepared by the Culinary Arts students. She reported on her department’s activities which included hosting the Emeril Lagasse Foundation Beneficiary Luncheon and creating a menu with the Culinary Director and Sommelier of the Lagasse Group in preparation for their Gala at the Filmore in New Orleans. Blayne Nielsen, NOCCA 9th grade Culinary Arts Academic Studio student, spoke with the Board about their experience at NOCCA.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Joe Ricks moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2022 NOCCA Board Meeting. Ms. Janice Manual seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

STUDENT SERVICES

Mr. Blake Coheley, Director of Admissions and Student Services, introduced Mr. Andy Bower, a new member of the Student Services Team. Mr. Bower, NOCCA Coordinator of Statewide Engagement, is joining the team to develop plans to reach more students statewide.

Mr. Coheley shared the 2022-23 October 1 Numbers. He provided greater detail specifically regarding the workshops. The number of students being served in after school non-credit workshops is increasing. Dr. Ricks suggested posting the October 1 Numbers on the website for the public.

The Audition Season events were outlined including Town Halls, Audition Information Sessions, and the upcoming Application deadline.

FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Ms. Lotte Delaney, NOCCA CFO, was not present but a budget update was prepared and shared with the Board.

NOCCA FOUNDATION

Ms. Sally Perry, Executive Director, was not present but prepared a document to be shared. Mr. Solomon extended an invitation for the Home for the Holidays event.

BOARD CHAIR REPORT

Mr. Solomon, Mr. Cooper, and Ms. Delaney, after conferring with the NOCCA Foundation, recently traveled to Baton Rouge to visit with Louisiana Commissioner of Administration, Commissioner Dardenne, to initiate conversation regarding the potential state purchase of Chevron Forum from the Foundation. Commissioner Dardenne suggested the inclusion of this purchase in future budget proposals. Further discussion to follow.

PRESIDENT/CEO REPORT

Mr. Cooper discussed NOCCA’s attendance at the Arts Schools Network Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Both he and Dr. Kit Nelson, Director of Academic Studio, shared that this was one of the best conferences they have had the opportunity to attend. The conference focused on innovation technology in arts education and paradigm shifting in the arts. One example was the walk through behind the scenes of Cirque de Soleil. The NOCCA team also visited the University of Nevada Las Vegas Department of Engineering to learn about their Entertainment Engineering and Design Specialty. The Changing Paradigms in Arts and Teaching involved many professionals discussing best practices and experiences. The NOCCA team returned to New Orleans energized and excited. Mr. Cooper was inspired by a group of educators from three different organizations in South Carolina who came together to work toward greater reach throughout the state, achieved by partnering with, rather than competing with, each other. This goal mirrored NOCCA’s goal and Mr. Cooper was excited to hear about their success.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Solomon asked for public comment. There was none.

REMARKS/OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Solomon asked for any closing remarks/other business.

ADJOURN

Dr. Ricks made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Submitted by: Reviewed by: Attest:

Leigh Traylor Silas Cooper Gary Solomon

Recording Secretary Secretary to the Board President of the Board

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_