

Metro Arts Commission

Minutes of the Commission Meeting January 21, 2021

This meeting took place via teleconference.

A recording of the meeting can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GNE6x9fBaRc

Attending Commissioners: Jim Schmidt (Chair), Matia Powell (Vice Chair), Will Cheek (Sec. /Treasurer), Jane Alvis, Ellen Angelico, Rev. Dexter Brewer, Marianne Byrd, Sheri Nichols Bucy, Bonnie Dow, Marielena Ramos, Paula Roberts, Hope Stringer, David Jon Walker, and Campbell West

Absent Commissioners: Sheri Nichols Bucy

Staff: Caroline Vincent, Grace Wright, Emily Waltenbaugh

Guests: Derrick Smith (Metro Legal), Charda Johnson (Metro ITS)

METRO ARTS MISSION: Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. Call to Order & Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

Chair Schmidt recognized the three new arts Commissioners – Rev. Dexter Brewer, Ellen Angelico, and David Jon Walker – and invited them to make introductory comments.

Chair Schmidt made a roll call of all Commissioners preset.

B. Vote on Governor's Executive Order No. 71

A motion that the meeting agenda constitutes essential business of this body and meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans considering the COVID-19 outbreak and is permitted under the Governor's Executive Order number 71 was offered by Commissioner Dow and Commissioner Ramos seconded the motion.

Chair Schmidt asked for any additional comments.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative.

C. Arts in Action

Emily Waltenbaugh gave an update on Metro Arts communications including the FY20 Annual Report, responses to Metro Arts initiatives, and the Power of the Pen: Antiracism through Writing program.

D. Action Items:

1. Opportunity Now Guidelines

Caroline Vincent gave a presentation on the proposed partnership between Metro Arts and Metro Action Commission for Opportunity Now, a youth employment initiative. Metro Arts will administer the program and seek non-profits and businesses to be host sites. Based on the recommendation of the 37208 Special Committee, additional points will be given during the selection process for sites that reside in or benefit the 37208 zip code.

Proposed Timeline:

- Application for Site Hosts Opens: Friday, January 22
- Application Deadline for Site Hosts: February 12, @ 4:59 p.m.
- Application Review Panel: February 16
- Site Host Partner Selection Announcements: February 19

Chair Schmidt asked if there was public comment. There was not.

Chair Schmidt then called for questions or discussion.

A motion to approve the Opportunity NOW Guidelines was offered by Commissioner Powell and Commissioner Roberts seconded.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative.

E. Project and Program updates

Caroline Vincent updated the Commissioners on upcoming deadlines and agency-related items.

- The FY21 Thrive Cycle 2 deadline is Tuesday, January 26th
 - Staff is recruiting Thrive community review panelists. Reach out to Marysa LaRowe for more information.
- The summer 2021 Diversity in Arts Leadership (DIAL) internship is open for undergraduate applicants with a deadline of February 17th.
- FY22 Grant Guidelines are available on the Metro Arts website
 - o Application live January 27, 2021
 - o Applicant Grant Training Video Available January 29, 2021
 - o Statement of Intent/Pre-Application Due 4:30 PM **February 10, 2021**
 - Application Deadline: Operating Support 4:30 PM March 10, 2021
- The upcoming FY22 Budget process was discussed.
- Caroline also updated the board on the upcoming strategic planning process. The solicitation is currently with Procurement and staff is awaiting its release.

F. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 p.m.