



Metro Arts Commission

Minutes of the Grants & Funding Committee

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

This meeting took place via teleconference.

A recording of the proceedings can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AgewelghpW0&t=4663s>

Committee Members Present: Matia Powell (chair), Jackie Daniel, Bonnie Dow, Sheri Nichols Bucy, Marielena Ramos (Ex-Officio)

Staff: Caroline Vincent, Janine Christiano, Nichole Robinson, Grace Wright

Guests: Amber Quisenberry (Metro ITS)

1) **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Powell did a verbal roll call of all Committee members present.

2) **Vote on Governor's Executive Order No. 16**

Commissioner Powell called for 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 16."

A motion to permit the meeting of the Metro Arts Commission under Governor's Executive Order No.16 was offered by Commissioner Dow and seconded by Commissioner Bucy.

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

3) Restorative Arts FY21 Awards [ACTION]

Nichole Robinson presented on the proposed programs and awards for Restorative Arts FY21:

- Southern Word: Grounding Identity Through Music [JDC, Probation]
 - Proposed Award: \$24,375
- Global Education Center: Passport to Prevention [JDC, Family & Community Support]
 - Proposed Award: \$22,500
- TPAC: Creating Positive Self Identity Through Community [Probation]
 - Proposed Award: \$15,800
- StreetSolid: August Wilson Gets REAL [Probation]

- Proposed Award: \$19,550
- From the Heart: Music 4 Life [JDC, Family & Community Support]

A motion to approve Restorative Arts FY21 Awards not to exceed the total amount of \$98,125 based upon the resource and scheduling availability of the Juvenile Detention Center and Probation was offered by Commissioner Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

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

4) Metro Budget Update

ED Caroline Vincent gave an update on the recent Metro Council Budget vote and the implications for Metro Arts grants allocations.

5) FY21 Grant Review Summary

Janine Christiano reviewed the Metro arts grants categories, introduced newly eligible organizations, and gave an overview of Metro Arts funding philosophy considering current condition.

Commissioner Powell asked for clarification regarding why a grantee was not given a Youth Arts Award despite their high score. Janine Christiano clarified that, given they could only apply for a Youth Arts or Art Access grant, the grantee chose to withdraw their Youth Arts application in favor of their Arts Access application.

Commissioner Bucy asked for clarification about how the allocations are awarded and what monitoring processes are in place. Janine Christiano clarified the process and noted that given the pandemic Metro Arts staff will reach out to make sure that each organization is able to follow through with their proposal.

Commissioner Powell asked about the process for if a grantee was not able to accept grant funds. Janine Christiano clarified that the upcoming motion would build in approval for staff to then reallocate the funds to grantees based on the scoring formula.

Commissioner Powell thanked staff and noted the need to build equity considerations into the grants process to make sure that grantee organizations are upholding the equity values committed to by the Arts Commission. Janine Christiano updated Commissioner Powell on the work being done internally as well as the work of the Arts Commission Committee for Antiracism and Equity and invited ongoing discussion.

6) FY21 Allocations [ACTION]

The Committee was presented with a grants funding recommendation based on the FY21 Metro Budget approved by the Metro Council:

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Basic 1 Operating Grant category was offered by Commissioner Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

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

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Basic 2 Operating Grant category was offered by Commissioner Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative except Commissioner Dow who abstained due to conflict of interest.

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Basic 3 Operating Grant category was offered by Commissioner Daniel and seconded by Commissioner Bucy.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative except Commissioner Powell who abstained due to conflict of interest.

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Core Operating Grant category was offered by Commissioner Daniel and seconded by Commissioner Dow.

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

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Creation Project Grant category was offered by Commissioner Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative except Commissioner Dow who abstained due to conflict of interest.

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Catalyst Project Support Grant category was offered by Commissioner Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

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

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Youth Arts Project Support Grant category was offered by Commissioner Daniel and seconded by Commissioner Bucy.

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

A motion to accept the FY21 Allocation Recommendations for the Arts Access Project Support Grant category was offered by Commissioner Dow and seconded by Commissioner Daniel.

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

- 7) Set August Committee Meeting
The next meeting of the committee was set for Thursday, August 13 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
 - 8) Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.
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