



# GRANTS

METRO ARTS / NASHVILLE

**Arts Commission**  
**Minutes of the Grants and Awards Committee**  
**Thursday, November 12, 2020**  
**1:00-3:00PM**

You can find a recording of this meeting here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p5UvnBLGpcA>

If you have any questions, please e-mail [grace.wright@nashville.gov](mailto:grace.wright@nashville.gov).

**Committee Members Present:** Sheri Nichols Bucy (Chair), Marianne Byrd, Jackie Daniel, Bonnie Dow, Clay Haynes, Matia Powell, Marielena Ramos, Jim Schmidt (Ex-Officio)

**Staff:** Caroline Vincent, Janine Christiano, Grace Wright, Marysa LaRowe

**Guests:** Philip Townsend (ITS)

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1) Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m.

Chair Bucy did a verbal roll call of all members present.

2) Vote on Executive Order No. 65

***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 was offered by Commissioner Byrd and Commissioner Powell seconded.***

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

3) Introduce new members

Chair Bucy introduced the new members of the Committee: Marianne Byrd, Clay Haynes, and Marielena Ramos.

4) CARES funding

Caroline Vincent gave a presentation on the proposed CARES Act Funding to be allocated to Nashville arts non-profits and the proposed criteria for selection.

After discussion, a motion to approve criteria for CARES Act Funding was offered by Commissioner Haynes and Commissioner Ramos seconded.

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

## 5) Grant Guidelines for FY22

Janine Christiano introduced an overview and major themes for the Committee's discussion of the FY22 Grant Guidelines. She also went over the involvement of the Arts Commission's Committee for Antiracism and Equity making recommendations for consideration.

Janine gave a presentation on the following sections: Guidelines Intro, Eligibility, Eligible Expenses, Grant Cycle Timeframe, Matching Funds.

The Committee discussed the proposed changes. In terms of matching funds, the Committee discussed the benefits and drawbacks of matching funds in terms of financial stability, access, and possible hybrid models of matching requirements. There was also clarification around Charter and IRS filing requirements.

Janine gave a presentation on the following sections: Grant categories (Operating - Basic/Core and Project - Youth Arts/Arts Access & Creation/Catalyst). The staff highlighted the following questions:

- Basic Category simple reverification or full adjudication?
- Operating Support AND Project Support or focus on Operating only?
- Decoupling Core and project grants from contracting process
- IF project support suggested, what project categories? What max request?

The Catalyst project support grant was clarified. The Committee discussed the possibility of only offering operating funding. There were concerns about organizations not getting funding for arts programs that particularly served underserved communities.

Marysa gave a presentation on the following sections: Applicant checklist, Givingmatters.com, Financial Statements and IRS Forms 990, Disclosure of Other Metro Support, Completing an Online Grant Application, Application Deadline, Draft Reviews, Important Dates.

The Committee discussed the role that GivingMatters.com profiles plays for arts organizations as well as Metro Arts. There was also a discussion of how Metro Arts could incorporate CARE's recommendations for providing additional support.

Marysa gave a presentation on the following sections: Grant Review Process (Grant panelists, Panel meetings, Funding recommendations, Appeals)

The Committee reviewed the allocation process and the associated formulas, the CARE recommendation to clarify equity standards, and further how cultural equity could be clearly communicated in the guidelines.

The Committee decided by consensus to continue discussion for another thirty minutes. Commission Dow and Commissioner Daniel had to leave at the scheduled time but encouraged the discussion to continue.

Janine gave a presentation on the following sections: Award Notification, Record Keeping and Reporting, Logo Usage and Credit Policy, Maintaining Good Standing, Monitoring

The Commissioners reviewed the major points of the meeting discussion including matching funds, project support, equity criteria, scoring criteria, and annual review of the guidelines.

The Committee decided by consensus to schedule a continuation of the FY22 Grant Guidelines discussion in December.

6) Set next Committee Meeting

The next meeting was set for December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

7) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.