



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

Metro Arts Commission

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

June 25, 2020

This meeting will take place via teleconference.

A recording of the proceedings can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j7UDWBhXgQI&t=4482s>

Attending Commissioners: Marielena Ramos (Chair), Jim Schmidt (Vice Chair), Jackie Daniel (Sec. /Treasurer), Jane Alvis, Marianne Byrd, Will Cheek, Niki Coffman, Bonnie Dow, Clay Haynes, Sheri Nichols Bucy, Matia Powell, Paula Roberts, Hope Stringer, Campbell West, and Marcus Whitney

Staff: Caroline Vincent, Emily Waltenbaugh, Janine Christiano, Nichole Robinson, Van Maravalli, Anne-Leslie Owens

Guests: Kenneth McCoy (Metro ITS), Amber Quisenberry (Metro ITS)

METRO ARTS MISSION:

Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Chair Ramos called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and did a verbal roll call of all Committee members present.

B. VOTE ON GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.16

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 Cheek and Commissioner Dow seconded the motion.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative with the exception of Commissioner Bucy and Commissioner Alvis who were experiencing technical difficulties.

C. ARTS IN ACTION: Highlights of Prior Month's Activities

Emily Waltenbaugh updated the Arts Commission on Metro Art media mentions which focused on the budget, the I Voted Stick Contest winner, April 2020 THRIVE projects, and the Diversity in Arts Leadership Fellowship.

D. ACTION ITEMS:

1. Restorative Arts FY21 Awards

Nichole Robinson present 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 as recommended by the Grants and Funding Committee was offered by Commissioner Haynes and seconded by Commissioner Coffman.

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

2. Public Art Acquisitions Budget

Anne-Leslie Owens presented on a proposed phase two of Metro Arts Art WORKS acquisition program to help support artists in need given the March 3 tornado and the ongoing pandemic. The project would be funded by the Percent Fund, and Metro Arts is exploring potential partnerships with General Services and the Nashville Public Library for placement of the artworks. Staff will keep the Arts Commission updated as details are confirmed.

A motion to approve a Public Art Acquisitions budget in order to acquire local artwork for the Metro Public Art Collection with a budget of up to \$100,000 from Percent Funds and to

pursue partnerships with Metro Public Library and General Services for artwork placement and programming as recommended by the Public Art Committee was offered by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Coffman

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

3. FY21 Grant Allocations

Janine Christiano reviewed the Metro arts grants categories, introduced newly eligible organizations, and gave an overview of Metro Arts funding philosophy considering current conditions. The Committee was presented with a grants funding recommendation based on the FY21 Metro Budget approved by the Metro Council. Allocations were also reviewed and approved by the Grants and Funding Committee.

The Commission asked for clarification regarding the funding policies, particular allocation amounts, and equity philosophies. After discussion, Chair Ramos called for a vote.

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

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

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

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative except Commissioner Alvis, Commissioner Dow, Commissioner Cheek, Commissioner Robert, Commissioner Stringer, and Commissioner Whitney 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 Bucy and seconded by Commissioner Cheek.

Roll call vote was taken, all members present voted, and all votes were affirmative except Commissioner Powell and Commissioner Alvis 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 Cheek and seconded by Commissioner Alvis.

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 Coffman.

Roll call vote was taken, and all members present voted. There were four abstentions due to conflict of interest, one nay, and six ayes.

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

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

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

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 Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Coffman.

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

E. PROGRAM, PROJECT, AND OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Caroline Vincent acknowledged the work of the Arts Commission on making tough decisions and working through the allocations.

Caroline also gave updates on the Courthouse Art WORKS restoration. Following the recent protests that damaged the Metro Courthouse, several artworks from the Metro Public Art Collection were removed. Most of the artwork has been returned to the Courthouse except for the first floor, which is still being cleaned and restored.

Dr. Caldwell, the Director of Public Health, has contacted Metro Arts about a potential partnership to promote public health.

The Center for Non-Profit Management is moving their Crossroads anti-racism trainings online, and staff will keep the Arts Commission updated about scheduling.

The Porch has approached Metro Arts about a partnership to create a several weeks long anti-racism and writing workshop.

Additionally, it was noted that if the Governor's Executive Order No. 16 is not extended, the Arts Commission will begin to meet in person again. Staff will make sure that there are social distance and safety protocols in place.

F. ADJOURN MEETING

Chair Ramos acknowledged the work of the staff and Commissioners.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:54 p.m.