



METRO ARTS

NASHVILLE OFFICE OF ARTS + CULTURE

Metro Arts Commission

Minutes of the Commission Meeting

May 21, 2020

This meeting took place via teleconference.

A recording of the proceedings can be found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eehuWRcxpSQ>

Attending Commissioners: Jim Schmidt (Vice Chair), Jane Alvis, Will Cheek, Niki Coffman, Bonnie Dow, Clay Haynes, Sheri Nichols Bucy, Matia Powell, Paula Roberts, Hope Stringer, and Marcus Whitney

Absent Commissioners: Marielena Ramos, Jackie Daniel, Campbell West

Staff: Caroline Vincent, Ian Myers, Tré Hardin, Janine Christiano, Nichole Robinson, Atilio Murga, Grace Wright

Guests: Derrick Smith (Metro Legal), Kenneth McCoy (Metro ITS)

METRO ARTS MISSION:

Drive an Equitable and Vibrant Community through the Arts

A. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Vice-Chair Schmidt called the meeting to order at 12:02 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 Coffman and seconded by Commissioner Stringer.

Vice-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: Highlights of Prior Month's Activities

Emily Waltenbaugh updated the Arts Commissioners on media mentions including the April 2020 THRIVE projects and the I Voted Sticker Contest.

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Restorative Arts Reverification Project Awards for Summer 2020 & FY21 Guidelines

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

- From the Heart
 - Proposed Award: \$4,375
- Global Education Center
 - Proposed Award: \$7,000
- Southern Word
 - Proposed Award: \$4,800

Vice-Chair Schmidt asked Metro Staff if there was any public comment. There was not.

Vice-Chair Schmidt opened the request to discussion.

A motion to approve the Restorative Arts Reverification Project Awards for Summer 2020 was offered by Commissioner Haynes and seconded by Commissioner Dow.

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

Nichole Robinson presented to the Arts Commission on the FY21 Restorative Arts process and changes to the FY 21 guidelines including funding for JDC, Probation, and Family & Community Support categories for awards.

Vice-Chair Schmidt asked Metro Staff if there was any public comment. There was not.

Vice-Chair Schmidt opened the request to discussion.

A motion to approve the Restorative Arts Reverification Project Awards for Summer 2020 was offered by Commissioner Coffman and seconded by Commissioner Cheek.

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

2. Shift Project Grants to Operational Support

Janine Christiano presented a request to allow Metro Arts grants applicants to transition FY20 project support grant funds to operating funds given the increased need during the current crisis.

Vice-Chair Schmidt asked Metro Staff if there was any public comment. There was not.

Vice-Chair Schmidt opened the request to discussion.

A motion to approve contract amendments for arts organizations currently receiving project support to transition project funds to operating funds was offered by Commissioner Dow and seconded by Commissioner Stringer except Commissioner Alvis who abstained and Commissioner Haynes who was experiencing technical difficulties.

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

3. Equity Committee Title & Roster

Janine Christiano presented the committee with the title and roster for the Committee for Antiracism and Equity, which has been created from the Antiracism Transformation Team.

Commissioner Roberts and Commissioner Cheek voiced their support.

Vice-Chair Schmidt asked Metro Staff if there was any public comment. There was not.

Vice-Chair Schmidt opened the request to discussion.

A motion to approve transitioning the title of the Equity Committee to the Committee for Anti-Racism and Equity (CARE) & to approve the roster of members was offered by Commissioner Coffman and seconded by Commissioner Bucy.

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

4. Public Art: Fairgrounds Finalist

Atilio Murga reviewed the selection process for the Fairgrounds public art project and announced the finalist, Blessing Hancock. He further noted that the Fairgrounds project will involve extensive community engagement and local apprenticeships.

Vice-Chair Schmidt asked Metro Staff if there was any public comment. There was not.

Vice-Chair Schmidt opened the request to discussion.

A motion to approve the Public Art Committee's request to approve Blessing Hancock as the finalist for the Nashville Fairgrounds Public Art Project was offered by Commissioner Cheek and seconded by Commissioner Roberts.

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

E. Program, Project and Operational Updates

Caroline Vincent gave the Board updates on the budget and reminded them to fill out their Conflict of Interest forms before the grant allocations meeting in June.

Caroline suggested moving the June Arts Commission to June 25th in order to make grant allocations after the Metro Nashville budget had been decided.

F. ADJOURN MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.