

**Metro Arts Commission**  
Minutes of the Commission Meeting  
July 19, 2018  
Metro Office Building 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Davidson Conference Room  
800 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South, Nashville, TN

**Attending Commissioners:** K. Clay Haynes (Chair); Jane Alvis; Niki Coffman; Manuel Delgado; Bonnie Dow; Dr. Ruth Ross Edmonds; Mohamed Shukri Hassan; Danielle McDaniel and Marcus Whitney

**Absent Commissioners:** Toby Compton; Jackie Daniel; Larry Keeton; Marielena Ramos; Jim Schmidt and Hope Stringer

**Staff:** Caroline Vincent; Laurel Fisher; Lauren Fitzgerald; Tré Hardin; Van Maravalli; Ian Myers; Anne-Leslie Owens; Skylar Peterson; Olusola Tribble; Emily Covington, Malia Marcella (intern)

**Guests:** Carly Elliot (Metro Legal)

**A. Call to Order**

Metro Arts Commission Chair Clay Haynes called the July meeting to order at 12:04 PM.

**B. Minutes of previous meeting**

*A motion to approve minutes from June, 2018 meeting was offered by Commissioner Coffman, seconded by Commissioner Delgado, and the motion passed.*

**C. Updates**

- **Operations**

Interim Executive Director Caroline Vincent reported that Metro Finance has implemented a savings reduction plan in which Metro Arts is expected to save \$97,000 of the approved budget. Staff is currently considering scenarios for achieving this savings without programmatic cuts. There was discussion about possible scenarios and internal operational changes that could result in cost saving.

The Commission was also reminded that the vote for officers and committees will take place in August. Committee structures and members will be determined in August for Executive Committee, Grants and Allocations Committee, Public Art Committee, Board and Staff Development Committee, and Public Funding task force.

Chair Clay Haynes also stated that Metro Arts by-laws should be updated. Haynes informed the Commission that moving forward, consent agendas would be used for some action items in order to more efficiently utilize time in meetings. This will require Commissioners to review items before the meetings.

- **Community & Organizational Development**

Grants Manager Laurel Fisher presented Commission with a memo regarding the OZ Arts funding request and the funding decision made in the last Commission meeting regarding their application for Creation Project Support. The memo outlined the funding request, the project, and the factors that resulted in the Commission not funding this project. The memo included the timeline of when Metro Arts received the new information about the project, the research and consultation done immediately following, and the steps taken to bring the new information to the Commission at the June meeting. After the Commission made their decision, OZ Arts requested a meeting with Metro Arts staff to discuss further. The meeting took place on July 5, 2018. During that meeting, Metro Arts staff discussed the scores and comments received, Metro Arts' allocation process, and the specific concerns that were surfaced after the project was adjudicated. While still disappointed by the Commission's decision, OZ Arts left the meeting understanding more fully why the decision was made and will continue to serve as a strong partner of Metro Arts moving forward.

Fisher also reported that 15 ABC (Arts Build Communities) grants applications have been received and a review panel with five community members will be held on August 8. The results of that panel will be presented to the Commission on August 16.

- **Public Art & Placemaking**

It was reported that the Smith Springs Community Center grand opening will take place on Saturday, July 22. Fifty reservations for chef/artist Tunde Wey's dinner as part of Build Better Tables temporary art exhibition were confirmed. Art WORKS will be installed in the Mayor's office in early August and the rest of the Courthouse in mid-August. Staff is planning an artist reception for September.

There was also discussion about the positive impact the communications position has made to Metro Arts.

#### D. Impact/Outcomes Reporting for FY2018 THRIVE and Restorative Justice

Neighborhood and Artist Development Coordinator Lauren Fitzgerald presented a THRIVE video with testimonials and a THRIVE outcome/impact report to the Commission. Fitzgerald reported that many project expansions occurred this year and multiple projects included neighborhood partners.

Community and Organizational Development Coordinator Olusola Tribble gave a Restorative Justice impact report. The collaborative program with Metro Nashville Davidson County Juvenile Court and Judge Sheila D.J. Calloway, Juvenile Court Judge, has enabled artists and arts organizations to provide dynamic program opportunities for youth and families who have interacted with the juvenile justice system and/or who are deemed at-risk. It costs roughly \$88,000 to incarcerate one youth per year. With same amount of money, in FY18 Metro Arts has:

- Provided training for 19 artists and organizations
- Funded 9 programs
- Served 424 youth who have interacted with the criminal justice system or who are deemed at-risk.
- Helped to hire 48 artists, 38 self-identify as a person of color
- 79% of youth served have been affected by the juvenile court

- 87% of youth served identify as a person of color.

#### E. Equity Spotlight and Anti-Racism Transformation Team Update

It was reported that the Antiracism Transformation Team has been meeting regularly and an organizational assessment should be completed soon. REAL planning for FY19 programming in collaboration with the Curb Center for Arts, Politics, and Public Policy is underway and the application for the program is open; the Commission was informed that the symposium, *Visions of Racial Equity in Arts Leadership (REAL) in Practice* will be held in March 2019.

#### F. New Business

Announcement of 2<sup>nd</sup> floor door access now open to public.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00PM

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#### G. Executive Session: Update on Executive Search

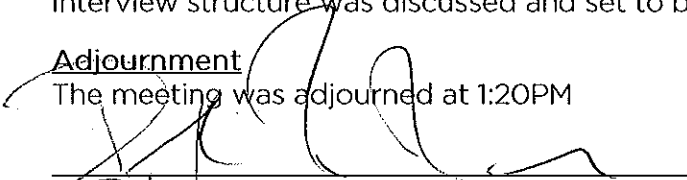
Board Chair Clay Haynes reported that over 100 applications were submitted. The pool has been reduced to 8 candidates.

There was discussion amongst Commissioners consisting of scheduling and interview processes. It was decided that Commissioners would interview three final candidates in late Aug. or Sept.

Interview structure was discussed and set to be determined at a later date.

#### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20PM

  
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Dr. Ruth Ross Edmonds (Secretary/Treasurer)

8-16-18  
Date

Prepared by Skylar Peterson

